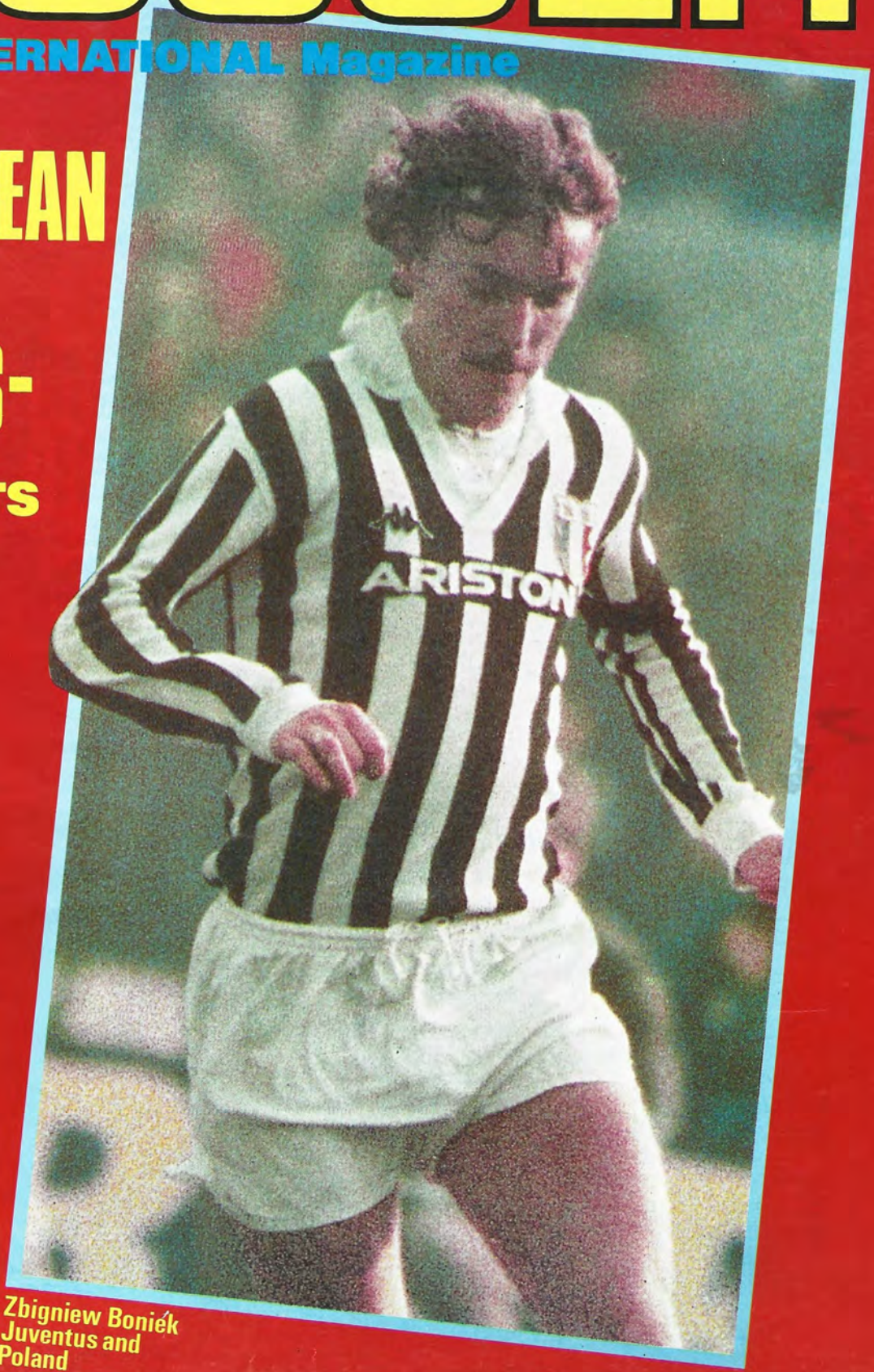
WORLD SOCCER

JUNE 1983 80p
(IR £1.16)

The INTERNATIONAL Magazine

EUROPEAN CUP FINALS- FULL REPORTS



Zbigniew Boniek
Juventus and
Poland

MANNI KALTZ
(HAMBURG AND
WEST GERMANY)

World SOCCER

Now it's official — Mexico stage World Cup

FIFA's World Cup decision-makers in Stockholm. From left: Carlos Lacoste (Argentina), Hermann Neuberger (West Germany), president Joao Havelange and general secretary Sepp Blatter.

AS WE were saying last month . . . Mexico were duly awarded the right to stage the finals of the 1986 World Cup, when FIFA's executive committee met in Stockholm.

It took the Mexican delegation just ten minutes to present their ten-page statement of claim and earn a unanimous vote ahead of the United States and Canada.

The Canadians took the decision badly and reacted with a display of petty anger which only justified FIFA's decision to look elsewhere for their organisers.

As for the US, they probably put more backs up than gained new supporters in using former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Pele and Franz Beckenbauer in their delegation bidding to save the day.

Kissinger said afterwards: "Our view was that when two equally good proposals are presented, the country who has never staged the Cup should be given preference . . . obviously I presented our case with inadequate eloquence. But the politics of soccer make me nostalgic for the politics of the Middle East."

FIFA president Joao Havelange tried to defend the decision to send the investigative commission only to Mexico, and FIFA World Cup organising boss Herman Neubeger said: "Canada and the United States failed to reply to some important questions. We could not keep on postponing the decision."

Mexico — hosts in 1970 — thus become the first country to be awarded the finals twice.

HAMBURG GRAB GLORY IN GREECE

European Cup Final report from KEIR RADNEDGE in Athens

THIRD time lucky for Hamburg, the West Germans are the new club champins of Europe after a six-year domination by the English.

But my apologies to Ernst Happel's team. As well as they played, as brilliant and methodically as they followed the Austrian's tactical orders, the story of the 28th Champions' Cup final will be the story of a £2 million nightmare.

That — slightly more, in fact — was how much Juventus splashed out a year ago to sign Michel Platini from Saint-Etienne and Zbigniew Boniek from Widzew Lodz. This double deal was completed with the sole intention of winning for Juve the one prize which had always eluded them: the European club crown.

That was, and thus remains, the greatest dream of Gianni Agnelli, honorary president of Juventus, and king of the Fiat motor empire. If money could buy success, then Hamburg needn't have bothered turning out in the graceful new Olympic Stadium on the outskirts of Athens.

But while money is important at this rarified level of the game — Hamburg pay coach Ernst Happel £4,000 a week, after all — it isn't everything. Big name players, their skills and their whims, have to be integrated into the team.

Juventus proved in the latter half of the season that they had achieved integration enough for the league bread-and-butter. But they allowed themselves to be lulled, fatally, into believing that this was enough.

It wasn't. Before the game Happell said: "People tell me that Juventus are a fine team. So they are. But a fine team with a few weaknesses."

And Happel played on them, mercilessly, thanks to the ability of Felix Magath and Jürgen Milewski and Juve's astonishingly inept tactical thinking.

I have never seen an Italian team taken — tactically — to the cleaners in so comprehensive a manner. I have never see an Italian team, caught out in the first half, fail to put the tactics right after half-time.

At least, not until I saw Juventus against Hamburg; not until I saw Massimo Bonini and a superb player such as Marco Tardelli reduced to virtual rabbits. Man of the match Magath and Milewski ran the match. Juventus allowed them to, by presenting them with so much space.

If Magath had the ball and Tardelli closed down, then Hamburg switched play to Milewski, totally ignored by the Italians. And vice versa. If Mikewski had Tardelli breathing down his neck, then the Germans were freely able to move forward through Magath.

When Magath scored the game's only goal with a decisive early strike which further dictated the path to tactical ruin for Juventus, who was it who made a half-hearted attempt to challenge? Was it Tardelli or Bonini, or sweeper Gaetano Scirea? Not at all. It was Roberto Bettega, playing a hugely disappointing last game for Juventus before moving on to Toronto.

I'd blame Dino Zoff for making no serious attempt at Magath's curling shot, delivered with great cunning inside the far post. But Zoff was to be faulted more on the mental than the technical side. I believe he simply didn't expect Magath to be allowed into the danger zone.

This was a very different Magath from the static, faceless Magath we've seen playing for West Germany; the Magath who says he has retired from the national team. Under Jupp Derwall, Magath had been forever a stand-in, a stopgap, if Schuster, perhaps, were injured — subsidory piece in an international chess game. No wonder he's never taken internationals by the scruff of the neck, as he dominated on this occassion.

I thought I'd never seen him look as fit. But maybe that was an unfair impression brought about merely because of the direction and purpose he

Cover picture

OUR COVER PICTURE . . . features Juventus forward Zbigniew Boniek, one of Europe's outstanding players, who cost the Italians £1 million a year ago in their bid to raise a team good enough to win the Champions' Cup. This page features the start of a full report on the Champions' Cup Final in Athens.

WORLD SOCCER

Editor:
PHILIP RISING
Associate Editor:
KEIR RADNEDGE

VOL 23 No. 9

June 1983

ONSLOW HOUSE
60-66 SAFFRON HILL
LONDON EC1N 8AY

WORLD SOCCER (incorporating SOCCER STAR) is published monthly by Websters Publications Ltd, Onslow House, 60-66 Saffron Hill, London EC1N 8AY. Situated at this address are the magazine's Editorial, Advertising and Publishing offices. Printed by The Chesham Press Ltd, Chesham, Buckinghamshire. Registered at the Post Office as a newspaper.

CHAMPIONS' CUP FINAL

Athens (Olympic Stadium) — May 25
Hamburg 1 (Magath 7)
Juventus 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 75,000. **Ref:** Rainea (Rom)

Hamburg: 1 Stein — 2 Kaltz, 5 Hieronymus, 4 Jakobs, 3 Wehmeyer — 8 Groh, 6 Rolff, 10 Magath, 7 Milewski — 11 Bastrup (sub 12 Von Heesen, 54), Hrubesch (captain). Substitutes not used: 13 Schroeder, 14 Hansen, 15 Brefort, 16 Hain. Coach: Ernst Happel.

Juventus: 1 Zoff (captain) — 2 Gentile, 5 Brio, 6 Scire, 3 Cabrini — 4 Bonini, 8 Tardelli, 7 Bettega — 10 Platini, 9 Rossi (sub 15 Marocchino, 54), 11 Boniek. Substitutes not used: 12 Bodini, 13 Storgato, 14 Furino. Coach: Giovanni Trapattoni.

Match statistics (first half/second half):

Hamburg.— Fouls 10/6. Offside 3/1. Corners 3/1. Shots on target 2/2; off target 5/4. Bookings for Rolff (foul on Gentile, 34), Groh (skirmish with Cabrini, 39). Injury treatment for Milewski and Bastrup (caught in the face by Tardelli, deliberately according to the Germans).

Juventus. — Fouls 8/3. Offside 3/9. Corners 4/4. Shots on target 2/2; off target 1/2. Bookings for Bonimi (foul on Hieronymus, 35), Cabrini (skirmish with Groh, 39).

ERNST HAPPEL (Hamburg coach): "It's true that my teams have always been very successful against Italian teams in Europe. But there is no secret. Each match is different. As far as this game was concerned, I must say that we knew how Juventus would play and what we had to do. From the first minute until the last minute we played with the discipline — in all departments."

GIOVANNI TRAPATTONI (Juventus coach): "We were concerned about Hamburg because of the athletic power of their game. That is why they won. But it might have been different if their goalkeeper had not made some good saves, particuiarly in the first half. I admit that, even so, it was our worst game in European competition. Several players did not play as I know they can. We tried to control Magath and Milewski in midfield but with a team such as Hamburg, who interchange so skilfully in midfield, that is not easy. As for the penalty appeal for a foul by the goalkeeper on Platini, I don't know. I couldn't see properly and anyway, I'm not looking to use examples like that as excuses. Hamburg won because they were the better side on the night. As for Rossi, I substituted him because the way Hamburg were playing meant that, with his style, he was having no influence."

Juve taken t

● *Continued from previous page*

assumes when it's the Hamburg shirt on his back.

At any rate, Magath's display recalled the words of skipper Horst Hrubesch beforehand: Hamburg wanted to win, partly as a gesture of revenge after Italy's World Cup Final defeat of West Germany last year. But also, partly as a gesture of defiance to Jupp Derwall, and of reassurance to the West German nation. As if to say: If it had been Hamburg playing Italy last July, with Happel as manager, that 3-1 defeat would never have happened.

Happel is an enigmatic figure. And he clearly intends to remain so. Before the European final be turned down offers to reveal all from *Der Spiegel.* The magazine *Stern,* fresh from their Hitler Diaries disaster, were also given the brush-off. Happel instead, spent hours locked away with an Austrian journalist, an old friend, who works for yet another magazine. Did you get a smile of of him? the friend was asked. Oh yes, he replied with mischievous pride, "at least three times."

Even in victory in Athens, while a grin a mile wide split the face of Hamburg general manager Günter Netzer, so Happel remained apparently as gloomy as ever. Yet he had just scored another of his personal successes over Italian football.

In the 1978 World Cup finals, Happel was manager of the Holland team who pipped the Italians for a place in the Final against Argentina by winning 2-1 in Buenos Aires. At club level Happel's Feyenoord beat Milan in the Champions' Cup in 1970; then Happel's Brugge beat Juventus in the semi-finals in 1978. And in the UEFA Cup Brugge beat Napoli in 1976, and his Standard Liege beat Roma in 1979.

Happel is noted as a cautious trainer, no gambler. Yet circumstances forced his hand maybe a little against his inclinations in Athens, with great success. Jimmy Hartwig, a vital cog in the Hamburg midfield, couldn't play because of suspension. And that setback was turned to positive advantage by the wily Happel. The one tactical imponderable was how he would replace Hartwig after an injury-free season which had seen Hamburg play virtually unchanged and given no clue as to the answer.

The previous weekend Happel had told German journalists that he would play Milewski a little behind the front two (the departing Bastrup and Hrubesch). What he didn't say was that he would play Milewski wide and deep *on the left.* And in failing both to anticipate, and to act, on that factor was a root cause of Juve's failure to land the European Cup.

While Gentile marked Hastrup (and later substitute Von Heesen) and Brio took Hrubesch, so Antonio Cabrini marked . . . nobody. He didn't follow Milewski away out on the opposite flank, as Giacinto Facchetti would certainly have done under Helenio Herrera at Internazionale 20 years ago. He didn't even follow on up his own wing to close down on the underrated Jürgen Groh.

Milewski on the one side, Groh on the other, made hay. Their confidence inspired even left back Bernd Wehmeyer to pile forward down the Hamburg left, and a fine player he looked as well with such freedom. Hamburg spread their midfield net far and wide on the right and the left. And they could afford to do so because not only was Magath the prime force in the match, but in young Wolfgang Rolff they have a player of immense potential.

He has skill and stamina. Above all, he covers a lot of ground. When Juventus hesitated, then Rolff was there with the killing tackle or interception. His example was one of the reasons why Hamburg, in the first half especially, looked man for man about three yards faster than their rivals.

In fact, the extreme confidence and tight skill with which Hamburg played made it even more astonishing that, with a similar team, they lost both home and away to IFK Gothenburg in last season's UEFA Cup Final.

Now they are champions of Europe. Possibly only for a year. After all, they must reconstruct their strike force — though the signings of Dieter Schatzschneider and Wolfgang Wuttke appear virtually concluded. But the problems associated with rebuilding your attack can last a long time.

Juventus prove the point. One year ago their midfield was the best organised in *Calcio.* But by Liam Brady. Preferring the Platini and Boniek razamataz, Juventus threw Brady overboard to Sampodoria. To rebuild their attack to the highest standards was the aim; obviously one year hasn't been enough.

But what of Juventus? What, indeed. Rumours have insisted for half the season that they wouldn't be sad to see the back of Paolo Rossi. And his substitution early in the second half was hardly a vote of confidence. Juve have their eyes on Bruno Giordano (a fellow scandal victim) as replacement, though whether they get him depends on whether Giorgio Chinaglia goes through with his bid to buy out his old club, Lazio. Part of Chinaglia's demands a promise not to sell Giordano.

Rossi didn't endear himself to Juve by masterminding a pay revolt among the Italian World Cup men just before the start of the season. Ironically it's one of the men with whom he was seeking pay parity — Boniek — who would be going too.

His place with Juventus has been in the balance all season. It took him a long time to settle and though most fans thought he's achieved it after that winning goal away to Aston Villa, the truth was the opposite. Although Boniek's pace was one of the few qualities which worried Hamburg, his head down individualism didn't help Juve at all. In truth, when they moved forward they appeared to have few ideas on how to break Hamburg down.

Magath's early goal meant that for Juventus the age-old Italian tactic of defend and strike on the counter-attack, was useless. They had to come forward, and they didn't seem to know how.

Boniek has said that if Juve try to sell him, after only a year, he'll go back to Poland i.e. they won't get a transfer fee out of him. But it's more likely

Horst Hrubesch

o the cleaners

Dino Zoff

that he'll stay in Italy, maybe even on loan. As for Juventus, they'll need a top-class import in his place, not just to fill a gap, but to reanimate fans stung by defeat in Athens.

The trouble is, if it takes an import a year to settle in, it must take at least that long before an all-round championship challenge can be mounted.

One year, two, three. That's how long it will be before Juventus are back. Then their team will be much-changed. Dino Zoff will have gone by then. In fact, he may be gone by the start of next season. It emerged in the week before the Champions' Cup final that Juve were negotiating to buy Ivano Bordon, the Internazionale goalkeeper and Zoff's long-time national team reserve.

Juve's only condition on the sale was that the news should not leak out until after the game against Hamburg. That it did may affect more than a few people, and, in particular, whether 41-year-old Zoff plays another season.

There have been few more outstanding goalkeeper/captains in the game's history and indeed it had seemed that fortune was with him once more when he won the toss in a stadium so jam-packed with Juventus fans it might have been the Stadio Communale in Turin.

After all the fuss about Gentile's rugged interpretation of the laws of the game it was ironic that the first foul was actually committed on him by Magath. In fact, that was symptomatic of the way the game would go: Hamburg taking the initiative, Juventus responding . . . awkwardly.

It was seven years since the final had taken place without British involvement. But any fears that this would produce a continental cat-and-mouse exhibition quickly vanished. Hamburg played with pace and skill. They had been expected to make the running but not with quite so much panache. Jakobs headed over the bar, Juventus responded with a Bettega header well kept out by Stein . . . and then Hamburg scored.

I've already commented on the freedom Magath was allowed to run at the Juve defence, feint left, go right past Bettega and curl the ball beyond Zoff. There was some confusion over the time. The stadium clock marked the goal at nine minutes, I stopped it at 7 min 56 sec. Either way, within another four minutes Hamburg could have had the game sewn up.

First Milewseki lost his feet attempting to collect and convert a cross from Rolff, then Juve came within inches of giving away two penalties down on the left. Free kicks on the edge of the penalty box were indecisively cleared and when Manni Kaltz fired in a fierce cross-shot, it was Boniek of all people who turned up behind Zoff on the goal-line to kick clear.

The pattern had been established. Hamburg directed the game, imposing their tactical law. Juventus had to come out to attack them and, like so many Italian teams forced into an uneasy attacking game, didn't know how to cope.

True, Stein made a couple of vital saves. But Juventus couldn't cope with either Hamburg or the sheer pressure of the occasion. They had been clear favourites and had made the awful mistake of underrating the Germans. For their fans to have done that was immaterial; but for the players it was to prove fatal.

Platini, top scorer in the Italian league, had only two chances to demonstrate his prized ability at free kicks. Towards the end of the first half he made a terrible mess of an effort in the inside left position. Then, in the second, refusing this time to risk his reputaton further, he touched a kick sideways to Cabrini to shoot. The ball struck the defensive wall and danger was again averted.

All the old doubts about the French star came surging back, doubts which he had all but banished with his brilliant second half of the season.

Platini in full flow is a wonderfully exciting player to watch. But, typically of Juventus as they were in

Roberto Bettega

Athens, he is responsive, nor responsible. Juve needed someone to hold the ball in midfield for a moment and direct the movement up front. Maybe not a Brady, but certainly someone with a cool head to match Magath.

When Platini was signed it was expected that he would be the general. Instead he was reduced to the ranks alongside the rest and Juventus were deservedly beaten.

Hamburg, in their third appearance in the Champions's Cup, had at last taken the ultimate victory. In 1961 they were beaten in a semi-final play-off and in 1980 they lost 1-0 to Nottingham Forest in Madrid. Now they had not only outplayed Juventus, but they had taken some measure of revenge on behalf of West Germany for defeat in the World Cup Final.

It was a reasonable final, full of action and interest and movement. Whether it signals the start of another era of German domination — as with Bayern Munich in the mid-1970s — remains to be seen. Perhaps we are in the intermediate stage again.

A dream come true for Hamburg; a nightmare for Juventus.

Match facts

EUROPEAN CUP FINALS

1956 Real Madrid 4, Reims 3 (Paris). 1957 Real Madrid 2, Fiorentina 0 (Madrid). 1958 Real Madrid 3, Milan 2 (Brussels, aet). 1959 Real Madrid 2, Reims 0 (Stuttgart). 1960 Real Madrid 7, Eintracht Frankfurt 3 (Glasgow). 1961 Benfica 3, Barcelona 2 (Berne). 1962 Benfica 5, Real Madrid 3 (Amsterdam). 1963 Milan 2, Benfica 1 (Wembley). 1964 Internazionale 3, Real Madrid 1 (Vienna). 1965 Inter 1, Benfica 0 (Milan). 1966 Real Madrid 2, Partizan Belgrade 1 (Brussels). 1967 Celtic 2, Inter 1 (Lisbon). 1968 Man United 4, Benfica 1 (Wembley aet). 1969 Milan 4, Ajax 1 (Madrid). 1970 Feyenoord 2, Celtic 1 (Milan, aet). 1971 Ajax 2, Panathinaikos 0 (Wembley). 1972 Ajax 2, Inter 0 (Rotterdam). 1973 Ajax 1, Juventus 0 (Belgrade). 1974 Bayern 4, Atletico Madrid 0 (Brussels, replay after 1-1 aet). 1975 Bayern 2, Leeds 0 (Paris). 1976 Bayern 1, Saint-Etienne 0 (Glasgow). 1977 Liverpool 3, Borussia Mg 1 (Rome). 1978 Liverpool 1 Brugge 0 (Wembley). 1979 Nottm Forest 1, Malmo 0 (Munich). 1980 Nottm Forest 1, Hamburg 0 (Madrid). 1981 Liverpool 1, Real Madrid 0 (Paris). 1982 Aston Villa 1, Bayern Munich 0 (Rotterdam).

Wins: Real Madrid 6; Ajax, Bayern, Liverpool 3 each; Benfica, Inter, Milan, Nottm Forest 2 each; Celtic, Man Utd, Feyenoord, Aston Villa 1 each.

EUROPEAN TOP SCORERS 1982-83

Champions' Cup. — Rossi (Juventus) 6; Tlokinski (Widzew Lodz), Shaw (A. Villa), Platini (Juventus) 5 each; Krankl (Rapid Vienna), Uralde (Real Sociedad), Bastrup (Hamburg) 4 each; Filipczak (Widzew), Georgescu (Dinamo Bucharest), Wheelan (Liverpool) 3 each.

Cup-winners' Cup. — Santillana (Real Madrid) 9; McGhee and Hewitt (both Aberdeen), Maradona and Schuster (both Barcelona) 5 each; Charles (Swansea), Polster (FK Austria), Gudmundsson (Waterschei), Black (Aberdeen), Juanito (Real Madrid) 4 each; Simpson, Weir (Aberdeen), Alesanco (Barcelona), Altobelli (Inter), Steinkogler (FK Austria), Toko (Paris SG), Kiss (Ujpest), Janjanin (Red Star), Walsh (Swansea), Crooks (Tottenham), Savic (Red Star), Breitner (Bayern Munich) 3 each.

Cup Winners Cup

ABER TRIU SO S

ABERDEEN'S Eric Black falls over Real Madrid goalkeeper Agustin — but the ball goes into the net for the Scots' first goal.

PERHAPS the most welcome feature of Aberdeen's admirable Cup-winners' Cup victory over Real Madrid in Gothenburg was the sound of silence which followed.

A British triumph, but no hassle this time over hooligan fans. The last time a Scottish club landed one of Europe's prizes, in 1972, Glasgow Rangers were condemndd to expulsion because of the excesses of their fans, as they wrecked Barcelona.

But this was Aberdeen. The sane face of Scottish football represented by the behaviour of their followers in Sweden and by the way their footballers wrested the Cup in the most appalling conditions.

Certainly the heavens smiled on Aberdeen. Not that Madrid are unused to rain, but the combination of the pools of water *and* the verdant grass were, for most of the time, less of a problem for Aberdeen, accustomed to Scottish weather.

Thus it was all the more ironic that it was a mistake presented by the conditions which, indirectly, led to Madrid's goal. Alex McLeish turned to search out goalkeeper Jim Leighton with a 15th-minute back pass; the ball stuck in the water and, as Santillana chased after it, so he was felled by the goalkeeper.

Juanito took advantage to strike his penalty past Leighton for the equaliser and that goal meant, ultimately, that this Scottish-Spanish clash would go all the way into the depths of extra time before Aberdeen emerged.

This was the first time Madrid had been beaten by Scottish opposition in Europe and the first time Aberdeen had reached a European final, let alone won one. That they deserved to, no one could deny. After being shaken by Madrid's skilful probing in the second part of the first half, they forged back into control.

Madrid coach Alfredo Di Stefano admitted afterwards that Aberdeen had taken him by surprise. He had spied on them in domestic competition. But, like the most successful British exponents of European competition, Aberdeen have learned that you don't play the same way against continental opposition.

To drive hell for leather for goal is to invite a sucker punch. Aberdeen learned that from Liverpool two years ago and their cool performance against Madrid — remarkable when you consider the number of youngsters in their side — was testimony of the determined way in which manager Alex Ferguson had taught the lesson.

Not that planning was the whole story of Aberdeen's success. They have method, directness and talent. Perhaps Gordon Strachan is the best-known of their forward men, but in young Eric Black they have a player of rare attacking gifts. Black hadn't played for a month before Aberdeen lined up in Gothenburg, because of injury. But he nipped in for the first goal, smacked a remarkable volley against the bar and was still going late in the game to head over the top when it appeared easier to score.

By then, Aberdeen were finding their feet again. But Juanito's penalty had certainly unsettled them. As Ferguson said: "The half-time whistle couldn't have come at a better time." Uli Stielike and Ricardo Gallego provided vision and skill through the rain and Santillana led the line with a relentless optimism.

But the workmanlike Isidro was a weak link, Aberdeen were never seriously stretched and Madrid were left once more to curse the fate of the man who wears the No 2 shirt.

In the 1981 Champions' Cup it was No 2 Rafael Garcia Cortes who missed the vital tackle which let Liverpool's Alan Kennedy through for the winner. This time, in Gothenburg, it was No 2 Juan Jose's bad luck to be the man who inadvertently turned Miller's header on to the feet of Black for the Scots' opener. Juan Jose, in his first season with Madrid, was also the unhappy defender left behind as Aberdeen's winner arrived with eight minutes of extra-time remaining.

Juanito was robbed in midfield, Mark McGhee galloped away down the left and, with Juan Jose, Bonet, Metgod and Co steaming back far too late, Hewitt dived forward to head the dramatic winner past goalkeeper Agustin.

This was British football's 22nd European crown, more than any other country (and Britain in political terms is one country, whatever the arrangements for separate football associations). Spain can claim 16 overall successes, West Germany nine and Italy eight. But whatever dominance Madrid may have exerted over the Champions' Cup in its early years, those days are gone. It's ironic that their two last European finals — against Liverpool in 1981 and now against Aberdeen — have seen them defeated because the very tactic which has consistenoly upset continental rivals has proved comparatively ineffective against British defences.

That tactic has been playing to the outstanding ability in the air of skipper Santillana. He's a fine footballer, one of Europe's best orthodox leaders. But his ability to create havoc in the air has led Madrid into the mistaken path over the years of not concentrating hard enough on other ways through opposing defences.

When in trouble teams tend to panic, to take the soft option. That, in Gothenburg, was the lofted forward pass. And, as time went on and Gallego and Stielike (barely fit anyway) started to lose their legs, so Madrid's invention vanished.

Aberdeen played with total commitment for the entire 120 minutes. They scored right at the start and then substitute John Hewitt — the man whose goal in similar circumstances eliminated Bayern Munich in the quarter finals — took his chance in the 112th minute.

MADRID'S equaliser . . . rattled home from the penalty spot by Juanito after a foul by Aberdeen goalkeeper Jim Leighton.

Final, May 11

DEEN MPH WEET

from Jonathan Shallard

CUP-WINNERS' CUP FINAL
(Gothenburg, May 11)

Aberdeen 2 (Black 4, Hewitt 112)
Real Madrid 1 (Juanito 15 pen)
HT: 1-1. **90 min:** 1-1. **Att:** 17,804.
Ref: Mendgali (It).

Aberdeen: 1 Leighton — 2 Rougvie, 5 McLeish, 6 Miller, 3 McMaster — 4 Cooper, 7 Strachan, 8 Simpson — 9 McGhee, 10 Black (15 Hewitt 87), 11 Weir. Subs not used: Gunn, Kennedy, Watson, Angus. Manager: Alex Ferguson.

Madrid: 1 Agustin — 2 Juan Jose, 4 Metgod, 5 Bonet, 3 Camacho (14 San Jose 90) — 8 Angel, 6 Gallego, 10 Stielike, 11 Isidro (12 Salguero 103) — 7 Juanito, 9 Santillana. Subs not used: Miguel Angel, Garcia Hernandez, Ito. Coach: Alfredo Di Stefano.

Alex Ferguson: "This is the greatest moment of my lifd. It was a magnificent performance in the conditions and I thought we thoroughly deserved victory. We lost our legs a bit after their goal and the half-time whistle couldn't have come at a better time. But in the second half we got it back together. I can't praise my team enough."

Alfredo Di Stefano: "Aberdeen surprised me with their flexible tactics. I thought they would come at us like every other British team but they played a very sensible game."

Previous winners . . .

1961 Fiorentina. 1962 Atletico Madrid. 1963 Tottenham. 1964 Sporting Lisbon. 1965 West Ham. 1966 Borussia Dortmund. 1967 Bayern Munich. 1968 Milan. 1969 Slovan Bratislava. 1970 Manchester City. 1971 Chelsea. 1972 Glasgow Rangers. 1973 Milan. 1974 Magdeburg. 1975 Kiev. 1976 Anderlecht. 1977 Hamburg. 1978 Anderlecht. 1979 Barcelona. 1980 Valencia. 1981 Tbilisi. 1982 Barcelona.

British winners in Europe . . .

1956 —. 1957 —. 1958 —. 1959 —. 1960 —. 1961 —. 1962 —. 1963 Tottenham (CWC). 1964 —. 1965 West Ham (CWC). 1966 —. 1967 Celtic (CC). 1968 Man Utd (CC). Leeds (Fairs). 1969 Newcastle (Fairs). 1970 Man City (CWC). Arsenal (Fairs). 1971 Chelsea (CWC). Leeds (Fairs). 1972 Rangers (CWC). Tottenham (UEFA). 1973 Liverpool (UEFA). 1974 —. 1975 —. 1976 Liverpool (UEFA). 1977 Liverpool (CC). 1978 Liverpool (CC). 1979 Nottm Forest (CC). 1980 Nottm Forest (CC). 1981 Liverpool (CC). Ipswich (UEFA). 1982 A. Villa (CC). 1983 Aberdeen (CWC).

Atletico Bilbao pip Real Madrid

IN THE most staggering climax to any season, anywhere, Athletic Bilbao pipped Real Madrid right on the post to win the Spanish championship for the first time in 27 years.

If you read it in a novel you would say: "Impossible." Yet this was how Madrid and Bilbao approached their last game of the season:

Madrid were one point clear of Bilbao and knew also that, because they had collected the league 'doubge' over the Basques this would place them above their rivals if the clubs finished level on points.

That was the insurance Madrid took to Valencia — who themselves needed to beat Madrid to stand a chance of escaping relegation. As for Bilbao they went to Las Palmas knowing they had to win to stand a chance of the league; as for Las Palmas, they needed a draw to ensure that they stayed out of the relegation zone!

Both matches began at 5.35 in the afternoon of Sunday, May 1 (they should have kicked off at 5.30 but all first division players held a five-minute 'strike' in support of a players' sit-in at the federation HQ in the continuing dispute over back pay still owed by a group of second division clubs).

Within three minutes the substitutes on the Real Madrid bench were leaping up in delight; Las Palmas had taken the lead against Bilbao with an own goal by De Andres, deflecting beyond goalkeeper Zubizarreta a free kick taken by Pepe Juan.

But nothing stood still for long. After 12 minutes in Las Palmas, home defender Estevez failed to control a bouncing ball in the penalty area and Sarabia nipped in to shoot home a Bilbao equaliser.

Even better news for Bilbao came from a corner in Valencia. After 39 minutes of the game there Saura hit his kick in from the right, Austria's Kurt Welzl headed the ball back towards the near post where Miguel Tendillo headed in.

Madrid, now a goal down, were still leading the championship race at this point. But only for a matter of seconds. In the Canary Islands Sarabia centred, Manolo sliced his clearance, and veteran striker Dani fired Bilbao into a 2-1 lead.

From that point, Bilbao's delight and confidence put them on autopilot. Second half goals from Sarabia, Argote and Urtubi provided a devastating 5-1 win.

But while both games in Las Palmas and Valencia had begun five minutes late, the referee in Las Palmas deducted the five minutes' strike from the 90 minutes. The referee at Valencia did not, letting the game run its full course. That meant Bilbao coach Javier Clemente spent five agonising minutes with his ear glued to a radio, listening to the closing stages of the Valencia-Madrid clash before his triumph was confirmed: Madrid had lost 1-

Condemned

Bilbao were champions, Madrid runners-up. And while these results saved Valencia from relegation they condemned Las Palmas . . . along with Celta de Vigo and Santander.

Madrid coach Alfredo Di Stefano, uneasy subject of a whispering campaign that if they didn't win the league several players (among them Uli Stielike) would press for his sacking, said: "We lost because we took it too casually. Valencia battled for the result; some of our players appeared to have lead in their boots."

To add to the ironies of the day, Valencia's coach is Koldo Aguirre, who had reason for a double celebration: not only had the club he took over from Miljan Miljanic in mid-season stayed up, but Bilbao — whom he had served as player and later coach — had won the league for his old club with his new one.

To round up the other points: Atletico Madrid beat Santander 3-1 to grab third spot in the league, while Barcelona lost 1-0 away to Osasuna and finish fourth — meaning the Catalans faced the possibility of an end to the only ever-present record in European competition since the launch in 1955 . . . Hipolito Rincon, a Real Madrid throw-out, scored 20 goals for Betis to claim the top scorer's award; he was followed by Amarilla (Zaragoza) on 19 and Dani (Bilbao) on 18 . . . Jean-François Larios has parted company with Atletico Madrid, less than three months after leaving Saint-Etienne; Larios went back to France for treatment to a knee injury and never returned.

Anderlecht pick up the dividends . . .

UEFA Cup Final report

OLD SOLDIERS never die, they just fade away. In football, too. How else can one regard the joint failure of Real Madrid in the Cup-winners' final and Benfica in the UEFA Cup to go just that last mile?

Football is built on tradition. That Madrid, dominating club of the late 1950s, and Benfica, kings of Europe in the early 1960s, should both return to the climactic European occasions, was welcome.

But football does not stand still. It cannot stand still, either, if it is to progress. The pendulum has swung away from the Iberian peninsula and while Aberdeen had made the point in Gothenburg, so Anderlecht underlined it in front of an aggregate 125,000 fans in their UEFA Cup showdown with the Portuguese.

Anderlecht had been runners-up to Arsenal in the old Fairs' Cup in 1970; they had then become the first Belgian club to win one of the top prizes in 1976 and 1978 with the Cup-winners' Cup — sandwiching a final defeat by Hamburg in 1977.

In those past seven years Belgian football has grown up. The half-fit part-timers of the European Cups' early days have gone. So has the approach built more on strength than skill. Now Belgian football is benefiting from a rich vein of talent — and Anderlecht are picking up the dividends.

In Ludo Coeck, Frankie Vercauteren and Juan Lozano they have a midfield trio worthy to rank alongside any in Europe, while Erwin Vandenbergh and Kenneth Brylle are incisive strikers. These were the five men whose creative intelligence proved too much for Benfica.

The Portuguese had begun bravely in the Heysel Stadium in Brussels and that first leg produced a rare equality — both teams coming away pleased with the result, a slender 1-0 lead for Anderlecht.

The Belgians' coach, Paul Van Himst, said: "I'm not disappointed in the least. Benfica are very awkward opponents who work carefully to break up the rhythm of their opponents' game." As for Benfica's Sven-Goran Eriksson, he said: "I'm satisfied. We're far from finished. I said before the game that a narrow defeat wouldn't be a problem. I haven't changed my mind. Anderlecht are a remarkable team, but it's still 50-50."

The one goal, scored by the Danish spearhead Brylle, followed a moment of sixpenny-turning magic from Coeck down in the corner. He beat two defenders then delivered the cross which Brylle prodded in from close range.

Vercauteren thought that in the first 15 minutes of the second half Anderlecht should have grabbed a second goal, because as time went on so the fear of conceding a goal started to weigh on their minds and attacking spirit.

PAUL VAN HIMST . . . losing player with Anderlecht in the 1970 Fairs' Cup — now a UEFA Cup-winner as their coach.

It was one of the strange twists that Anderlecht appeared more disturbed than Benfica by the 75th-minute exclusion of Jose Luis. Benfica were already well set into their cautious shell by then, and when reduced to ten men they merely raised the barriers ever more effectively.

Eriksson had lost his record of never having been defeated in 22 European ties, 12 with IFK Gothenburg — the 1982 UEFA Cup-winners — and ten with Benfica. But he left Brussels with the consoling thought that injuries had restricted his team in the first leg and they had still come through in a position of some strength

Maybe if Nene had been fit to play from the start, rather than appearing as a substitute, they might have snatched a goal in one of their occasional breaks. Maybe Anderlecht would have had an even more worrying time had the black-gloved Joao Alves been able to take his place in the Portuguese midfield.

But Van Himst travelled to Lisbon for the return with the optimism born of a lengthy unbeaten run in the Belgian first division. He said: "We have often played better away than at home in Europe. I think we'll have plenty of supporters travel for the game to help us."

As for Eriksson, he predicted that the return of Alves, possibly, after injury, and the Swede Glenn Stroemberg, after suspension, would be vital. And, as far as the neutrals were concerned, the odds had certainly swung towards Benfica, playing in their sixth European final — albeit their first since 1968.

Naturally, in front of an 80,000 crowd made up predominantly of their own fans, Benfica flung themselves into attack right from the start of the second leg. The absence of Zoran Filipovic, injured and placed only on the substitute's bench, was a major blow to their recovery plans, however.

Diamantino and Nene played up front, and Diamantino had the first shot — an effort on the turn which Munaron swallowed without difficulty. Yet it was Anderlecht who got the ball in the net first; fortunately for the Portuguese, Dutch referee Charles Corver had spotted offside and so Vandenbergh's "goal" was disallowed.

Still, the brilliant creative invention of Juan Lozano and Frankie Vercauteren which had figured in the build-up in that move should have warned Benfica that the Belgians were far from overawed.

Benfica had no option but to go forward. Humberto Coelho, taking every opportunity to move upfield, volleyed a Diamantino cross into the side-net. Then the Benfica skipper's adventure paid off. Fernando Chalana crossed from the left, Humerto chested the ball down and Han Sheu darted into the gap to smash his shot over the flat-footed Munaron.

A goal up, Benfica could now see the light. And, fatally, they relaxed. Three minutes after Sheu's goal Lozano took control in midfield, Vandenbergh swept a pass out to Vercauteren clear on the left, and when his arrowing cross homed in at the far post beyond Bento, there was Lozano to head the equaliser.

There was silence in the Stadium of Light. Indeed, the light had gone out. That goal not only put Anderlecht back in the lead in terms of mere figures, it also drew the sting and passion from Benfica's approach work. Clearly, the thought that Anderlecht might steal a goal had never crossed their mind.

Into the second half, but clearly the Portuguese were finished. Now Anderlecht's decision to call up veteran Hugo Broos as an extra defender, using Luka Peruzovic as a sweeper behind a line of four, paid off. Benfica had no answer.

Previously the direct running and sheer strength of Sweden's Stoemberg in midfield had reaped dividends. Now Anderlecht's defenders stood off him. And Benfica's attackers, ensnared by this Belgium defensive trap, lost their way.

Eriksson had brought then renewed success in Portugal by introducing a direct, aggressive northern European style. But faced by a team altogether too comfortable in dealing with the Anglo-Saxon high ball into the penalty area, Benfica were definitely second best.

Nene had a header fortunately saved by Munaron after Carlos Manuel's short cross and the goalkeeper made a brave catch at the feet of substitute Joao Alves. But even the introduction of the half-fit Filipovic wasn't enough. He did get the ball in the net, but referee Corver had already blown for offside and Benfica's dreams of glory, like those of Real Madrid, must wait for at least another year.

UEFA CUP FINAL

Brussels (Heysel Stadium) — May 4, first leg
Anderlecht 1 (Brylle 29)
Benfica 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 45,000. **Ref:** Dochev (Bul)
Anderlecht: Munaron — Hofkens, Peruzovic, M. Olsen, De Groote — Frimann, Coeck, Vercauteren, Lozano — Vandenbergh (Czerniatynski 78), Brylle.
Benfica: Bento — Pietra, Alvaro, Humberto Coelho, Jose Luis — Sheu, Bastos Lopes I 78), Frederico, Carlos Manuel, Chalana (Nene 67) — Filipovic, Diamantino.
*Jose Luis sent off, 75.

Lisbon — May 18, second leg
Benfica 1 (Sheu 36)
Anderlecht 1 (Lozano 39)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 80,000. **Ref:** Corver (Hol)
Anderlecht 2-1 on aggregate
Benfica: Bento — Pietra, Humberto Coelho, Bastos Lopes I, Veloso (Alves 62) — Carlos Manuel, Stromberg, Sheu (Filipovic 51), Chalana — Diamantino, Nene.
Anderlecht: Munaron — Pernovic — De Greef, Broos, M. Olsen, De Groote — Frimann, Lozano, Coeck, Vercauteren — Vandenbergh (Brylle 79).

Previous winners . . .
Fairs Cup: 1958 Barcelona, 1960 Barcelona, 1961 Roma, 1962 Valencia, 1963 Valencia, 1964 Zaragoza, 1965 Ferencvaros, 1966 Barcelona, 1967 Dinamo Zabreb, 1968 Leeds, 1969 Newcastle, 1970 Arsenal, 1971 Leeds.
UEFA Cup: 1972 Tottenham, 1973 Liverpool, 1974 Feyenoord, 1975 Borussia Mg, 1976 Liverpool, 1977 Juventus, 1978 PSV Eindhoven, 1979 Borussia Mg, 1980 Eintracht Frankfurt, 1981 Ipswich, 1982 IFK Gothenburg.

★ ★ ★

Paul Parish reports

UNITED AT THE SECOND ATTEMPT

SO it was a dream after all. Relegated Brighton, the unlikely finalists, were ultimately destroyed by mighty Manchester United.

But how different it all might have been.

Before a replay that ended in a swirl of red and white delight it had been unfancied Brighton who might so easily have had their hands on the FA Cup. In the last minute of extra time, at the end of an exciting, emotion charged first meeting, between the sides, Gordon Smith had fluffed the chance to give the Sussex seaside resort the greatest sporting moment in its history.

Smith failed — or was it that Gary Bailey in United's goal made a very good save? — and a replay was necessary. The rest is now history with United, at the second attempt, emerging comprehensive victors — the biggest margin, in fact, for 80 years — with the gripping saga finally decided on the 74th birthday of that Mancunian legend Sir Matt Busby.

Statistically it is easy to write off Brighton, vanquished as they were in the replay, but that final scoreline bears no relation to their contribution to two quite memorable Wembley occasions.

Brighton gave everything, even after their cause had been hopelessly lost under a three goal first half replay avalanche. Quite simply the form book eventually came right.

Perhaps Wembley's mucky, muddy surface, suffering from six inches of rain in as many weeks, played its part when the two sides met for the first time. It produced an encounter which was so typically British that it must have astonished the 400 million worldwide televiewers.

It had the pace and penalty area incident that too often is submerged in a welter of defensive coaching. And don't forget, too, that it had moments of rare skill. Ray Wilkins magnificent second goal for Manchester United, for example, would have been lauded as quite exceptional had it been struck by an Italian, a Dutchman, even a Brazilian.

Mixed feelings

That goal, it seemed, had given United the trophy at the first time of asking. If followed a well directed header from Smith, to give Brighton a shock lead, and an equaliser from Frank Stapleton that had seemed an awful long time in coming as United pressed forward in relentless assault.

Yet Brighton, despite their miserable league record, didn't surrender. Three minutes from the end Gary Stevens, a colossus in Brighton's defence, struck the goal that forced extra time and eventually a replay.

There were mixed feelings in the Brighton camp. There was disappointment that Smith hadn't struck more decisively in the extra time finale, and pleasure that their suspended captain Steve Foster would be available for the replay.

Mixed feelings or mixed blessings? For while Foster's buccaneering leadership might have proved a bonus it did split the partnership of Stevens and Steve Gatting who had performed with such mastery in the first game. Gatting moved to an unfamiliar right back role, to replace the injured Chris Ramsey, and Foster came into the middle to partner Stevens.

For 25 minutes in the replay things went Brighton's way. They controlled affairs, with Jimmy Case a much more influential figure in midfield than on the previous Saturday.

Then United struck with a gem of a goal, created down Brighton's right flank, where the left footed Gatting was not settling quickly. Wilkins, Arnold Muhren, Norman Whiteside and Arthur Albiston all played their part before Alan Davies laid the ball off for Bryan Robson to strike with power and accuracy from the edge of the box.

Davies, the surprising Final replacement for injured Steve Coppell, unhinged Brighton again four minutes later with his centre finding Whiteside, whose header completed a remarkable year for this precocious 18-year-old.

Last hope

That was really the end. Brighton's last hope went with a Bailey save from Case's shot that had taken an unkindly deflection off Kevin Moran. And a minute before the interval Robson had the simplest of far post chances to put United into an uncatchable three goal lead.

By now Robson was playing with the authority of an England captain, an authority that hadn't always been evident in the first meeting. He was pulled back by Stevens and Muhren carressed home his first ever penalty in British football to conclude the scoring.

United were in command, Brighton, though beaten, were always battling for some consolation. Twice Bailey deprived them of a late goal to ensure that United won by a margin which was scarcely suspected after Saturday's thriller.

And as United paraded the Cup for their first major success in six years it was worth bearing some comparison between these two matches and the European Cup Final. Those multi-millions who watched all three games on television will, I suspect, have fonder memories of Wembley's excitement than the slide-rule boredom produced in Athens.

FA CUP FINAL
MAY 21

Wembley
Brighton 2 (Smith 14, Stevens 87)
Manchester United 2 (Stapleton 55, Wilkins 72)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 100,000. **Ref:** A. Grey

Brighton: Moseley — Ramsey (Ryan 55 mins), Pearce, Grealish, Stevens, Gatting, Case, Howlett, Robinson, Smith, Smillie.

Manchester United: Bailey — Duxbury, Albiston, Wilkins, Moran, McQueen, Robson, Muhren, Stapleton, Whiteside, Davies.

FA CUP FINAL
REPLAY
MAY 26

Wembley
Brighton 0
Manchester United 4 (Robson 25 and 44, Whiteside 29, Muhren pen 62)
HT: 0-3. **Att:** 92,000. **Ref:** A. Grey.

Brighton: Moseley — Gatting, Pearce, Grealish, Foster, Stevens, Case, Howlett (Ryan 75), Robinson, Smith, Smillie.

Manchester United: Bailey — Duxbury, Albiston, Wilkins, Moran, McQueen, Robson, Muhren, Stapleton, Whiteside, Davies.

France are new Youth Champions of Europe

by Keir Radnedge

FRANCE are the new youth champions of Europe, winning the UEFA prize for the first time since 1949 thanks to a fortunate 1-0 win over Czechoslovakia at Tottenham's White Hart Lane.

Even the fitful English sun smiled on the French whose well-rounded display — sound team work featuring several talented individuals — underlined how strong and deep is the renaissance in football across the Channel.

Senior manager Nichel Hidalgo has already this past season brought a host of new hopefuls through into his squad — Jean-Marc Ferreri being the most outstanding — and now the conveyor belt has more promise on the way.

Only a few, of course, will make the grade, Joel Frechet, a skilful resilient midfielder, could well be one, also the nippy Saint-Etienne little right winter Jean-Luc Ribar. Luc Degrave was a decisive centre back and Arnaud Sabonnadiere — after a shaky start in the final — a promising goalkeeper.

England's history underlines the truth that success in the UEFA Youth event is no guarantee of senior success; England have, after all, won the title on a record eight occasions. But it will be a source of interest for fans who watched this tournament to see how many of these youngsters come back as stars.

Promotion

Not that there were many fans at the finals. Around 30,000 in all, for the 28 matches. And that was perhaps the major disappointment. The tournament received little or no promotion in newspapers, on television or radio and even the staging clubs limited themselves to only one or two small advance advertisements in their own club programmes.

The problem for the FA was that the tournament fell at their most hectic time which also included arranging the FA Cup Final (and replay), the British championship and the England-Hungary international.

In West Germany and Switzerland in the past large crowds have been roped in by the simple expedient of giving away thousands of free tickets in local schools. But tomorrow's players and spectators were ignored this time and appalling attendances — which could hardly have inspired the players — were the result.

The England team was not, by common agreement, the *best ever* sent into the finals. Manager Graham Taylor, from Watford, was pleased that 17 of the country's most promising lads could learn at first hand some of the pressures and disciplinary demands which will face them as they grow up in the professional game.

But inspiration was lacking out on the pitch. That was clear from the poor quality of the semi-final against Czechoslovakia and from the third-place match against Italy.

Both games went to penalties. Against the Czechs, the match which mattered most, England lost 4-2 in the shoot-out, then recovered to win by the same margin when the third-place match against the Italians ended the same way.

Italy were, according to Taylor, the best team in the tournament and England's success in holding them to a draw pleased him. In fact England were ahead through Paul Rideout in 20 seconds and the Italians looked vulnerable for a while.

When they did recover they showed several players of real potential. Midfielders Mario Bortolazzi of Fiorentina and Giuseppe Giannini of Roma and Ivano Bonetti of Brescia could all go a long way in the game.

So could Paolo Baldieri, their most dangerous forward whose domestic problem is caused by the factor that ahead of him in his position in the Roma team is one Bruno Conti!

The big disappointment was centre forward Roberto Mancini, the 18-year-old who cost Sampdoria £1.2 million a year ago. Apart from looking a little heavy for his height, he gave a distinct impression of a man who found this tournament too far beneath him after the hurly-burly of calcio.

Italy thus failed to beat England, whose penalty conquerors Czechoslovakia duly had little luck against France in the final.

Because of the fears of heavy rain ruining White Hart Lane, the third place match which should have taken place as a curtain-raiser to the final, had been switched to Watford and a morning kick-off instead.

Another organisational slip-up. To re-arrange the game at 24 hours' notice was much too late. It wasn't as if the rain had only begun the day before. The consolation match could have been switched up to a week beforehand. Instead several hundred fans who didn't catch the news, turned up early at White Hart Lane expected to see England in action.

Favourites

That had been the expectation from the outset of the tournament, when England were the finals favourites. But now they had been overtaken. France, by virtue of their semi-final defeat of Italy, had taken pole position by the time they came out to face the Czechs.

Right back Bertrand Reuzeau underlined that right by scoring an eighth-minute solo goal but for most of the rest of the match it was the Czechs who led the dance. Attacking organiser Roman Kukleta from Brno had a couple of good chances, so did the powerful Sparta defender Jan Orgonik and club-mate Tomas Skuhravy.

But in the end the Czechs' predeliction for trying to walk the ball into the net ate up the time at their disposal.

Allex France!

1983 finals (in England: May 13-22)

Gp 1: Czechoslovakia 3, W. Germany 1 — Bulgaria 1, Sweden 1 — Czech 0, Bulgaria 0 — W. Germany 1, Sweden 0 — Czech. 1, Sweden 1 — W. Germany 3, Bulgaria 1. **Gp 2:** Yugoslavia 2, Rumania 0 — Italy 1, Turkey 1 — Yugoslavia 0, Italy 2 — Rumania 6, Turkey 0 — Yugoslavia 3, Turkey 1 — Rumania 0, Italy 2. **Gp 3:** England 1, Spain 0 — Scotland 3, S. Union 0 — England 3, Scotland 0* — Spain 1, S. Union 0 — England 0, S. Union 2 — Spain 1, Scotland 1. **Gp 4:** Finland 1, France 3 — R. Ireland 1, Belgium 0 — Finland 0, R. Ireland 0 — France 3, Belgium 1 — Finland 4, Belgium 0 — France 1, R. Ireland 1. *England beat Scotland 4-2, but because the Scots fielded an inelgible player the result was officially amended to 3-0 to England.

Semi-finals: Czechoslovakia 1, England 1 (4-2 on pens), (at Highbury) — Italy 0, France 1 (at Stamford Bridge).

3rd place match: England 1, Italy 1 (4-2 pens) (at Watford).

Final — May 22 (White Hart Lane)

Czechoslovakia 0
France 1 (Reuzeau 8)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 4,593. **Ref:** Petrovic (Yug)

Czechoslovakia: Pribyl — Bilek, Grussmann, Orgonik, Hornyak — Vrto (Kabyl 46), Kukleta, Soucha (Kollar 70) — Skuhravy, Balaz, Horvath.

France: Sabonnadiere — Reuzeau, Prissette, Degrave, Hely — Ribar, Fournier, Frechet (Fernier 61), Thomas — Guion (Fourrier 69), Paille.

Previous winners: 1948 England, 1949 France. 1950 Austria. 1951 Yugoslavia. 1952 Spain (on toss of coin v Belgium). 1953 Hungary. 1954 Spain. 1955-56 No outright winners. 1957 Austria. 1958 Italy. 1959 Bulgaria. 1960 Hungary. 1961 Portugal. 1962 Rumania. 1963 England. 1964 England. 1965 E. Germany. 1966 Italy and S. Union joint. 1967 S. Union. 1968 Czech. 1969 Bulgaria. 1970 E. Germany. 1971 England. 1972 England. 1973 England. 1974 Bulgaria. 1975 England. 1976 S. Union. 1977 Belgium. 1978 S. Union. 1979 Yugoslavia. 1980 England. 1981 W. Germany. 1982 Scotland.

WORLD YOUTH FINALS/COCA-COLA CUP

Group A — June 2 (Mexico City): Mexico v Australia. **June 3** (Toluca): S. Korea v Scotland. **June 5** (Mexico City): S. Korea v Mexico — (Toluca): Scotland v Australia. **June 8** (Mexico City): Mexico v Scotland — Toluca): Australia v S. Korea.

Group B — June 3 (Puebla): Poland v Ivory Coast — (Guadalajara): Uruguay v US. **June 5** (Puebla): US v Ivory Coast. **June 6** (Leon): Uruguay v Poland. **June 8** (Puebla): Poland v US — (Irapuata): ivory Coast v Uruguay.

Group C — June 4 (Mexico City): China v Argentina — (Puebla): Czechoslovakia v Austria. **June 7** (Leon): Austria v Argentina — (Irapuatu): Czechoslovakia v China. **June 9** (Leon): Argentina v Czechoslovakia — (Irapuatu): China v Austria.

Group D — June 4 (Guadalajara): Holland v Brazil — (Monterrey): Soviet Union v Nigeria. **June 6** (Guadalajara): Brazil v Nigeria — (Monterrey): Holland v Soviet Union. **June 9** (Guadalajara): Soviet Union v Brazil — (Monterrey): Nigeria v Holland.

Quarter-finals — June 11 (Mexico City): A1 v B2 — (Monterrey): B1 v A2. **June 12** (Guadalajara): D1 v C2 — Leon): C1 v D2. **Semi-finals — June 15** (Mexico City): A1/B2 v C1/D2 — (Monterrey): B1/A2 v D1/C2. **Third place — June 18** in Guadalajara. **Final — June 19** in Mexico City.

Brazil can win Youth Cup for first time

by Jonathan Shallard

BRAZIL can gain some consolation for their World Cup failure last year by winning the World Youth Cup for the first time.

The finals, with the Coca-Cola Cup at stake, run in Mexico from June 2 to 19 and could provide new evidence of Brazil's traditional bottomless well of talent. Outstanding among the new generation are Giovanni and Bebeto — Giovanni Silva and Jose Roberto Gama de Oliveira, to give them their full names.

For the first time Brazil's football confederation has placed the World Youth Finals for the Coca-Cola Cup as a priority event and coach Jair Pereira — no relation to new senior national boss Carlos Alberto Parreira — says: "I haven't seen most of the other teams but Brazil will win. Our most dangerous rivals could be the Soviet Union."

Jair was impressed by Australia, among others, in the preliminary rounds but he spends most of his time talking about his own players' strengths, and particularly of Giovanni and Bebeto.

Giovanni was a member of Brazil's World Cup team in Australia two years ago. A slightly-built 19-year-old (remember that's the age limit) he is with Rio league champions, Vasco da Gama.

Bebeto, also 19, is being hailed as "the new Zico". From a middle-class background in Salvador, Bahia State, he never had any ambitions to be a footballer and it took months of persuasion before Flamengo — Zico's club, of course — managed to talk his father round to considering the idea.

A left-sided striker, fast and clever if a little over-weight, Bebeto could inspire Brazil to the title just as a fellow who shares his position — Diego Maradona — succeeded with Argentina in Japan four years ago.

Another Flamengo boy in the Brazil squad and possibly destined for future stardom, is goalkeeper Hugo Jose Duarte. Full-back Aloisio says: "He must have glue on his hands," rare words of praise from a country whose goalkeeping Achilles heel is renowned.

The World Youth Cup was launched by FIFA president, Joao Havelange — whose brainchild it was — in 1977, when the Soviet Union beat Mexico on penalties after the final of the tournament in Tunisia ended all square. Argentina then won in Japan and the current holders are West Germany — who reached the last finals in Australia only because Holland dropped out because of cash problems!

At first many federations treated the competition as a seven-day wonder and remained aloof. Now, however, UEFA general secretary, Hans Bangerter says the event has generated such interest and prestige that the UEFA youth tournament may need reorganising to effectively support and prepare for it.

At present European teams qualify for the World Youth Cup more than a year in advance. And preparation will be a vital aspect since the matches in Mexico City, Leon, Puebla, Toluca, Guadalajara, Irapuatu and Monterrey will be played at altitudes of between 5,000 and 8,000 feet.

What other signs can the game expect from Mexico — apart from a preview of how that country may cope with the World Cup proper in 1986?

Former England manager, Ron Greenwood, is looking for further progress from the game's third world, the African and Asian teams. He says: "I am convinced we'll see more evidence of this. These countries have the freshness, energy and enthusiasm which the more traditional football countries are in danger of losing."

Greenwood has spent some time advising the Australians, who face hosts Mexico, 1982 European champions Scotland and South Korea in their first round group. He reports: "I have had good reports of Australia and have been impressed by Mexico. This is an excellent group and if the Scots are to get through they will have to be at their best."

PAUL McSTAY . . . Celtic youngster who holds a key role for Scotland.

Scotland hope to take a number of experienced top-level players to bolster their chances. Among them are Celtic's highly-promising Paul McStay, with experience this past season of the big-match atmosphere both in domestic clashes with Rangers and in European competition against Ajax and Real Sociedad.

Another fascinating group lines up Czechoslovakia, Argentina, Austria and China in Puebla and Leon.

Josef Venglos, the Czech's World Cup manager who has lately joined Sporting Lisbon, is confident that his nation will qualify for the quarter-finals. He says: "Milos Kvacek has some good young players, such as Miroslav Miskuf (Lok. Kosice), Eduard Kopca (Inter Bratislava) and Ivan Hasek and Petr Vojir (both Sparta Prague). But the Chinese could be a threat.

"I saw their full national team at the Asian Games and if the youngsters have their potential they could be awkward opponents."

Argentina, under new youth boss Roberto Rogel, come to Mexico hoping to wipe out the bitter memories of the brawl which brought their last, decisive, match against Brazil in the qualifying South American youth tournament to a premature end.

They will not relish meeting an Austrian team whose nationalistic pride was never better demonstrated than by young Michael Gabriel. He has lived in West Germany since he was two years old and is with Eintracht Frankfurt. But he was born in Austria and turned down a West German youth selection to be available for his parents' homeland.

A good choice: Austria won their trip to Mexico by defeating defending champions West Germany 4-1 during the qualifiers!

The Austrians may be handicapped by domestic demands on their two shining talents, Alois Weinrich and Toni Polster, from Admira Wacker and F K Austria respectively. Weinrich scored five goals in three qualifying matches to see Austria through to Mexico, while Polster this past season became one of the youngest-ever Austrian full internationals.

Apart from his football ability Weinrich is also a talented violinist, much in demand on the Viennese jazz circuit!

The weakest group is probably the one which features Uruguay, the United States, Poland and the Ivory Coast.

FRANZ BECKENBAUER talks to Sue Mott in New York

World Soccer Exclusive Interview

MY L SEA ... B

FRANZ BECKENBAUER, one of the most elegant and charismatic talents ever to lace a football boot, is going for his hat-trick.

With three Champions' Cup medals, three North American Soccer Bowl wins and three World Cup appearances crowned by West Germany's victory in 1974, there are few honours left for football's incarnation of gentlemanly conduct.

In fact, the rare sporting hat-trick which has so far eluded Beckenbauer is more in the line of a prizefighter than a footballer. He is going for his third retirement.

In early March this year the New York Cosmos announced that Der Kaiser was returning. He had been lured out of retirement by a contract worth $250,000 to play one more season in the NASL — two-and-a-half years after his Cosmos farewell game and nearly a year since he retired from Hamburg.

"It's like having a member of a royal family on the team," said Cosmos coach, Professor Julio Mazzei, when the signing was complete.

But many people wondered why the archetypal "man with everything" should spurn well-earned retirement on the ski-slopes of Austria and return to the playing arena.

In an exclusive interview with *World Soccer*, Franz Beckenbauer reveals why he made a second comeback, his thoughts on the state of the world game and his plans for the future.

★

Q. *You've won every major soccer honour that exists and become a worldwide sporting legend in the process. You are rich, famous, respected and 38 in September. Why come out of retirement?*

A. Good question. My last official game was June 1, 1982 when I retired in Hamburg. But after that the Cosmos asked me to go on their Far East tour because they needed names. They would not be able to tour without me.

It was a nice four or five weeks, we won every game and I felt very well and comfortable with the team. So when they asked me to come back and try another season, I started thinking.

My physical condition was all right, the injuries I had in Hamburg were gone, I felt well — so why not?

I still like to play and for the friendship I have for the Cosmos, I thought OK I'll play another five months. Not because I have anything left to prove, just for fun.

Q. *You played in North America, alongside Pele and Carlos Alberto, during the Cosmos' greatest era. Now you return with the NASL in a state of decline – shrunken league, smaller crowds, fewer stars. So you feel you have returned to a vacuum?*

A. Not really. But maybe that's the reason they asked me to come back. To stop the decline. Our first home game this season attracted 40,000 to the stadium so maybe we can do something positive to help.

My personal contribution will be to play well, to show the fans what I can do with an age of 37. Obviously I cannot play like I did 10 years ago.

Now I don't run so much with the ball, but I have more experience, give long balls, bring my team-mates into good positions and then, once in a while, take the chance to go forward and work a scoring chance.

It is not necessary for me to score goals myself with the Cosmos. I am very happy if I can create a chance for someone else to score. For me that is like I have scored.

Q. *How does US pro-soccer compare with Europe?*

A. You cannot compare. It is even hard to compare English with German football because each country has a different mentality, a different style.

And US and German soccer is very, very far apart. But the standard here is not as bad as people think in Europe. They have good teams and they play under difficult and different conditions.

In Europe you have nice grass fields and people understand the game. Over here you have the astroturf and you have to travel a lot. In five months you have to play over 40 games.

As for the quality of the players, I think there are some Americans coming up. It is probably still too soon to say the next generation will be great soccer players. But what gives me hope is the kids, the millions of kids playing the sport. This is the future. Maybe in 10 years they will be competitive against Europe and South America.

Q. *You have joined the US campaign to make FIFA reconsider their premature decision to host the 1986 World Cup in Mexico. Why do you feel so strongly the tournament should be played in the US?*

A. Because I know the country. I know there is a lot of power in this country, a lot of money and if you want to host a World Cup you need a lot of everything, not only facilities like stadiums and transportation.

America is prepared for it and I think also the public deserves it. People know what is going on with the game now, they know the rules, kids would bring their whole family to games. I think the people would come.

Q. *Do you think FIFA has lost worldwide respect for their unorthodox, if not illegal, behaviour in awarding the tournament to Mexico?*

A. No, I don't think so. The Americans tried very hard, including myself, Pele and Kissinger, but I think the presentation they made was too late. They tried to do the whole thing in two weeks, and they did it very well, but they could not answer the main points and Mexico did a better presentation.

But I don't understand why FIFA did not come to visit the US and Canada. That would have been a good education for them, to see what was going on and then make up their minds.

It would be great for the US and for soccer to have the World Cup here but if not, maybe there's another chance in eight years time. You have to be careful what you say, but I think FIFA could have handled this better.

Q. *You competed in your second World Cup in Mexico in 1970, a tournament much maligned for the heat and altitude players were forced to endure. What were your personal feelings about it?*

A. I have to say that Mexico was a wonderful World Cup. I have played in three and Mexico was, from the point of view of the people and the games, the best.

It was not so successful for me personally because the Germans were third, but everybody was very, very happy and Mexico was a wonderful host.

OK, there was altitude and heat problems but the players are fit, and everybody has to play in the same conditions so there is no advantage or disadvantage.

Q. *Will the retirements of Hrubesch and Breitner harm West Germany's European Championship chances?*

A. Not so much Hrubesch because they have some good strikers in Germany, but the German team will miss a man of Breitner's calibre and his style of play.

But now they have Schuster and Hansi Muller back, both good playmakers, and so they have a good team again. They played really wonderfully against Turkey recently and destroyed them 3-0.

I think that after the World Cup, when a lot of Germans thought their team had played disgracefully, a good team has come together again.

It was always the same. After a World Cup, some players always retire, like Mueller and Overath in 1974, so the coach always has to build a new team.

I am hopeful the Germans are now together. They will make the finals and their most dangerous opponents will probably be France, the hosts who played very well in Spain. Then probably England, and maybe Spain, but I don't really see competition to Germany.

Q. *Hamburg's new striker, 25-year-old Dieter Schatzschneider, is being hailed in Germany as the new Gert Mueller. How do you assess him?*

A. No, there is no comparison with Mueller. They are extremely different. You can compare him with Hrubesch though — for his physique and the style in which he scores goals. Mueller was the king inside the penalty box. He was the most dangerous man in the history of soccer inside the penalty area but Schatzschneider scores goals from everywhere — long distance, short distance, with his head.

AST SON UT!

I think he has the talent to make the national team but you never know. The second division (where he has been playing for Fortuna) is very different from the first. The stoppers are much better and it will not be easy for him because of the reputation he has built up.

Q. *Why had the English, until this year, been able to dominate the European Cup when their national team had enjoyed so little success?*

A. The English national team is made up only of English players. The Scots team of Scottish players, same for the Irish, same for the Welsh. But in the club teams they have English, Scots, Irish and that's the best combination.

That's the reason why their club sides are stronger than their national team. If they joined together to form a Great British team, I think it would be very hard for the rest of the world to beat them.

Q. *How do you see your personal future? Would you like to be another Dino Zoff and stay in first-class soccer beyond your 40th birthday?*

A. I don't know. But I am never going to say never again. I never thought after the Cosmos I would go back to Hamburg. I never thought after Hamburg I would come back to the Cosmos, so I have to correct myself a lot.

I promote Adidas and Warner Communications (owners of the Cosmos) round the world and I write comments about games for a newspaper in Germany, so I have many things to do and I have great freedom also.

That was always my aim — to be able to retire from professional soccer and do the things I want to do, not the things I must do.

If you ask me now if this will be my last year, I must say yes but I don't know what is going to happen. I am still an active player so I cannot say whether I would eventually like to coach or not. Maybe in a couple of years I will change may mind and say: OK, how about coaching a team, but not now. I know it would be very difficult to say no to Bayern Munich, my old club, if they asked me.

Q. *You have played top-flight football for the last 20 years on two continents and including three World Cup finals. What major changes in the sport have you witnessed in those years?*

A. There has been a lot of changes. When I started in 1964 the system was different. We had no sweeper then. Now we have a rolling system, where the fullbacks go forward and score goals and the striker goes back and defends.

The players are in much better condition physically. Now in West Germany they practice twice a day. The average standard may even be better than 20 years ago, but what I miss is the personalities.

The big stars like Pele, Cruyff, Bobby Moore, Bobby Charlton. The Italians had the great Mazzola, Rivera, Riva and more. Now if you ask me who were the great personalities, I might say Maradona, Rummenigge, Zico . . . and then I would have to think about it. Ten years ago I could tell you 20.

Maybe it's because of the change in the style of soccer. Playmakers like Rivera and Overath are not given the time to improve any more and it's also easier to destroy the creator.

And in the last few years I have realised that kids are chosen for their physique not their ability when they play because coaches want to win. Between the ages of 14-16 you can only be successful if you have strong players. The little one might be a much better, more skilful player, but he has no chance. Maybe now he is playing tennis.

FRANZ BECKENBAUER . . . playing "for fun".

Robson holds the aces

By Keir Radnedge and Leslie Vernon

ENGLAND wind up the British championship and then set off for a three-match tour of Australia knowing that they hold all the aces in their European qualifying group.

Despite the appalling goalless draw at home to Greece earlier this year, Bobby Robson's men picked up two important points in the 2-0 defeat of Hungary.

But hopes that maybe England's new manager is at last sorting out a settled team are far-fetched. It's unlikely that England will have been at full strength for the remaining Home Internationals and the chances of anything better than a B team going Down Under appear even more remote.

While the likes of Liverpool, Manchester United, Ipswich and Arsenal all give priority to their own lucrative close-season tours, Robson can do little but seethe over a lack of squad-preparing activity which could be vitally damaging to England's European cause.

Not until the European championship ties next season will he again have a reasonable chance of selecting his best team. And that is no way to prepare.

Fortunes

There is an equality, a power-sharing, in English football which militates against the fortunes of the England team. The FA are responsible to FIFA; but while the League clubs are *answerable* to the FA, in turn, they are not *responsible* to the FA.

So while it's fine that the FA link legitimises the appearances of English clubs in European competition (one reason why there will be no breakaway "Super League"), it seems the clubs owe nothing in return.

Fans, players and officials agree that a successful England team would be good for the domestic game. But with the economic climate being such that close-season tours provide income vital to survival for even the biggest clubs one can only worry.

An ill-prepared team could well meet defeat in Budapest. After all, by all the odds a Hungarian success over England is long overdue. Even against the Magyars at Wembley the luckless Robson was forced to improvise with the recall of Peter Withe and make do in midfield without the drive of injured Bryan Robson.

Trevor Francis had a fine game in attack, and gave the Hungarians plenty of problems with his pace, control and willingness to take on his man. But how often will Francis be available? He missed the last European finals because of injury and it's a telling fact that since making his England debut against Holland in 1977 he has appeared in little more than one international in every two.

As for the Hungarians, of course, they have problems of their own, particularly after the shock 3-2 home defeat by Greece. That sent the Magyars down to fourth place in the group and means that Denmark are probably the most dangerous rivals with whom England now have to deal.

Prospects for the Magyars looked reasonable enough when the repeated the 6-2 scoreline against Luxembourg at home, but really they should have scored several more goals against such poor opposition. Hajszan, Nyilasi and L. Kiss scored in the first half, but both Poczik and Poloskei were badly injured in this period, and their places were taken by Burcsa and Szentes. Early in the second half, Luxembourg shocked Hungary with two goals in a minute, which indicated that the defence needed reinforcements.

Long faces

Szentes, Nyilasi and Burcsa scored further goals, but this wasn't a satisfactory victory, and there were long faces in the Hungarian dressing-room afterwards.

Kalman Meszoly wasn't very happy either, and indicated that he would make changes for Wembley. Indeed, he called in Martos and Kocsis from Belgium, put Kardos in the team, and despite the propaganda, he selected a defensive side. Laszlo Kiss was preferred to Torocsik in the forward-line, and Poloskei's place went to young Hajszan.

Against England, Hungary had a reasonable first half-hour, they marked the English forwards well and even managed to create a gilt-edged chance for Hajszan, which was missed by the young forward — or was it a brilliant save by Shilton?

But Varga gave away a silly foul near the corner flag in the 32nd minute, Cowans' free-kick was headed home by the excellent Francis. Where was Toth who was supposed to mark Francis? Why did Katzirz go down so late for the ball? This goal was the turning point. England settled down to play their usual cultured football, and the Hungarians were all over the place. The Kiss-Hajszan duo flopped completely, in midfield only Hannich's inventive industry was a plus factor and the defence was struggling.

By the second half, Francis had established a complete mastery over Toth, and Withe left his marker Garaba standing before he scored the second goal. The Hungarians' lack of stamina became obvious, and the introduction of Torocsik and Burcsa was a futile gesture. Hajszan had one more goal-scoring chance, but he had no strength left to finish effectively.

After this deserved defeat, Meszoly was defiant: "We dropped two points today. England dropped two points in previous matches. We must win our remaining games, and then we shall qualify for the Finals."

Hungary will play Greece at home and Denmark away before the season is over. I cannot see this team collecting maximum points from these matches. They just haven't got the forwards to penetrate the tough Greek defence or to be effective in Copenhagen. I would be glad to be proved wrong, but we shall see.

As for Torocsik, substitute at Wembley, his consolation was to score the first goal as Ujpest Dozsa beat Honved 3-2 to win the Hungarian Cup Final.

Torocsik's goal came in the fifth minute and Kisznyer added a second. But Honved were not beaten and pulled level through Gere and the veteran Kozma before Sandor Kiss put away the 78th minute winner for Dozsa.

England line up before the game against Hungary. Back: Withe, Martin, Butcher, Francis, Cowans, Shilton. Front: Sansom, Lee, Neal, Blissett, Mabbutt.

European Championship

The situation in the groups is as follows:

Group 1: Belgium can book their passage. They head the group and only Switzerland have a vague hope of catching them. Scotland are already out of it and so are East Germany — one of the biggest disappointments of the tournament.

The Belgians may not be spectacular, but over the past four years they have proved one of the most consistent and resilient of European nations. The Anderlecht trio of Coeck-Vercauteren-Vandenbergh could cause plenty of trouble in France next year too — though the chances of Coeck moving to Italy this summer are rather too high for the liking of national manager Guy Thys.

On paper the Switzerland-Belgium match on November 9 could be the decider.

Group 2: The ludicrous way in which the Soviets, with such a fine team, lost their nerve in the last World Cup should serve as a painful — but useful — lesson.

Their 5-0 victory over Portugal indicates that Oleg Blokhin is still a force with whom to be reckoned and the addition of one or two new players plus the promotion of World Cup reserves such as Cherenkov and Rodionov would appear to provide a platform for ultimate qualifying success.

Polish morale will hardly have been helped by their failure to beat Finland at home and the Soviets would never have expected such a bonus. Now Blokhin and Co should take full advantage. The Soviets' home game against Poland on October 9 looks decisive.

Group 3: It looks like England or Denmark now that the Greeks have thrown a large spanner in the Hungarian works. Even so Hungary-England on October 12 could still be the linch-pin fixture.

Group 4: At the halfway mark Wales are in the driving seat, with a two-point lead over Norway and Yugoslavia. But the Slavs are never better than with their backs to the wall and the fixtures' run-in appears weighted in their favour. They come to Wales on December 14, then play Bulgaria a week later. So the group looks unlikely to be settled much before Christmas.

Group 5: It looks like Czechoslovakia, following the 1976 European champions' 1-0 win over Romania in Bucharest. Sweden still have some hope after their 5-0 win over Cyprus but they may yet have to wait a few years longer before launching a well-founded comeback.

Glasgow Rangers' Robert Prytz scored twice against the Cypriots, but the Swedes' chances of overhauling the Czechs (or Romanians) still look remote.

Romania rely heavily on the well-rounded Craiova team for their inspiration while the Czechs look to Bohemians of Prague — both clubs, of course, UEFA Cup semi-finalists this past season.

Group 6: Austria or West Germany or Northern Ireland — with European champions West Germany the favourites, despite their early defeat in Belfast and a host of team selection problems.

The Germans' main problem — most unusually — appears to be self-confidence. The team has come under so much fire from critics at home that the overbearing spirit of caution so evident in Spain last year has been exacerbated.

Rudi Völler from Werder Bremen has emerged as a promising striker to partner Karl-Heinz Rummenigge. But the Germans' great lack is a commanding figure in midfield of the Netzer/Overath variety. Hansi Müller and Bernd Schuster have both proved controversial and unreliable and manager Jupp Derwall may either have to search further deeper into the Bundesliga or change style altogether.

But the Germans have already accomplished the hardest part of their programme, with all their away games now finished. This autumn they are home to Austria, Turkey, Northern Ireland and Albania in that order . . . which should see them through to the finals.

Group 7: Spain's home victories over Holland and the Republic of Ireland could prove the springboard needed to reach France. Miguel Munoz's men go to Holland on November 16 and, barring a remarkable revival by the Dutch, must fancy their chances.

ENGLAND have replaced the proposed tour of South America with a three-match June visit to Australia. ANDREW DETTRE reports on what awaits them.

ENGLAND BEWARE

ENGLAND had better beware: Down Under they're plotting her demise. What the Norwegians, Swiss and the Greeks had started the Aussies hope to finish off with an upset win.

England will play three full, FIFA-registered internationals here in eight days, in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. And nobody cares much whether some of the "stars" will make the trip or not, least of all Australian coach Frank Arok.

"I'd prefer the English to arrive with all their big guns," he says. "Second-string players are more dangerous: they want to prove something while fellows like Francis, Robson, Wilkins or Mariner would prefer to watch out for their legs — and have a nice holiday."

It may sound like sacrilege but I still believe that the key to the outcome of the three "Tests" is Arok himself, without a doubt the most knowledgeable, astute and intellectual coach ever to work in Australia.

Arok, 51, embodies a series of contradictions. His ancestry and mother tongue is Hungarian but he was born in Yugoslavia in what Europeans refer to as "detached territories" (see Versaille Peace Treaty, 1919). His father, a humble joiner, wanted his son to become an architect; by accident he became a physical educationalist. His parents had hoped that he would marry a nice Hungarian girl; he married a Serbian journalist. At 22 he looked like becoming a topflight star with a Belgrade team; instead, at 24, he was coaching first division Novisad, having retired with a torn ankle ligament and assorted other delicacies.

Many times he had a chance to coach crack Yugoslav clubs in Belgrade or Zagreb; he preferred to stay home at Novi Sad, coaching the province's club, Vojvodina or the city's, Novisad, and all that part-time: his full-time living came from journalism, working for a Hungarian-language daily in his home town.

Still, despite his reluctance to throw himself, body and soul, into the hurly-burly of Yugoslav football, he did achieve some remarkable results: a few years ago he was national team manager Vujadin Boskov's assistant (and actual team coach) and president of Yugoslavia's coaches' organisation.

However, as if by predestination, his biggest successes have come here in Australia. He first arrived early 1969 when, after years of correspondence with him and a few personal meetings during the 1966 World Cup, I recommended him to Sydney club St George, then experiencing a coaching crisis.

In 1968 St George finished second last in New South Wales; 12 months later Arok yanked them to second spot, then packed his bags and returned to Novisad. In 1971 he received an SOS from the same club to return and take over again. Arok duly arrived, became full-time manager-coach and in the next two seasons won every title and prize with his team that Australian soccer could offer.

While here, he absolutely "ruined" the club administration: he took care of coaching, team management, contracts, equipment, promotions and publicity — a one-man band the kind of which Australia had never seen before. (And still hasn't.)

The upshot: on his return to Novisad at the end of 1972 — to resume his coaching and writing career there — the Saints began a gradual decline.

None of the subsequent coaches could emulate his feats.

And so, at the end of 1980, the unthinkable happened: St George which, under Arok, provided up to eight players into the national team, was relegated.

With the club seriously thinking of folding up, Arok was approached once again to return for a third tour of duty on terms no other coach or manager could even dream of. And he came, saw and conquered: at the end of 1981 he took the team back into the National League where, in their first season, in 1982, they finished second and then won the traditional play-off "Grand Final".

The Football Association asked me to be their official interpreter when the Hungarians came to England to play off their European Championship match. This is the story of my three days with them.

THREE DAYS IN LONDON

recalled by Leslie Vernon

Monday: We go to Gatwick Airport with the representative of Thomas Cook travel agency, the FA official host, John Warren, and a lady interpreter whose job will be to look after the Sports Minister accompanying the Hungarians.

The chartered plane lands at 11.40 as scheduled, and their TV reporter, Tamas Vitrai, is the first one to appear. The Under-21 party takes another plane to Newcastle for their match there against England, and the seniors, with the journalists, doctors, etc, come through customs without any complications.

They all carry a copy of the Hungarian daily sports paper "Nepsport" with them, carrying my report which brings the news that Robson and Woodcock are injured and won't be able to play on Wednesday.

"Is that true?" asks Kalman Meszoly, the national team manager, and tells me that Poczik and Poloskei are also missing from the Hungarian party, and their places are filled with Kardos and Izso.

"This is a bigger blow to us than the loss of the players to Bobby Robson," adds Meszoly. The coach takes a long time to go through traffic, and we arrive at the Park Court Hotel, Lancaster Gate, about two o'clock.

Alex Montgomery from *The Sun* is the only journalist waiting for us. He wants to talk to Nyilasi, who assures him that this is a better side than the one which played in the World Cup.

We go down to lunch, the menu has been telexed to the hotel and they, more or less, keep to the instructions. I sit at the same table as the two doctors with the party, and after a really good meal, we discuss the rest of the menu with the restaurant manager.

Ferenc Puskas arrives in the middle of lunch, he is greeted with obvious affection and is asked to stay for coffee. The English journalists arrive in the meantime, and first they want to talk to Meszoly. He tells them that he is not going to select a purely defensive side, because it is foolish to play for a 0-0 draw.

"What happened against Greece won't happen again in five years, it is impossible to defend for 90 minutes and escape intact," said Meszoly. "My selection won't be influenced by Robson's choice," he adds.

The journalists ask me whether it would be possible to talk to Puskas, and he is quite happy to oblige. Puskas understands a great deal of English because he once work in Port Said, but pretends that he doesn't speak a word of it.

He fences around the questions regarding Wednesday's match and says: "We beat England 6-3 thirty years ago, the past is past, it is time that the present generation produced a similar result."

When he talks about his own career, surprisingly, he names as his most memorable match, the Stanley Matthews benefit game at Stoke, when he scored two goals in a selected European eleven. He says that he was happy to play for Honved and Real Madrid, he had not desire to play for any ohter team.

Meszoly cancels the planned trip to Highbury to train, and takes the players to the nearby Hyde Park for a little run and exercises. They have no ball to play with, but there is a game going on between a bunch of Italian waiters and their friends. I am asked to borrow the ball from them.

My request is refused, but the Italians are willing to play Hungary there and then. Meszoly says "No, thank you, we don't want any more injuries." After supper, we go by coach to Victoria to see Wayne Sleep in his dance show "Dash".

Tuesday: The coach comes at 9.30 and takes the players sightseeing and shopping. I stay in the hotel and have a chat with the three foreign legionnaires, who have no need to go chasing bargains because they live in Western Europe.

Ferenc Meszaros, the Sporting Lisbon goalkeeper, says: "I'd love to play for Middlesbrough and team-up with Malcolm Allison again. The directors at Sporting are offering me a new two-year contract, but I haven't signed yet because I am waiting for approaches from other clubs."

Gyozo Martos, the Waterschei full-back, tells me that his contract expires this summer, and that he hopes to stay on in Belgium.

Istvan Kocsis is also happy playing abroad as a full professional, because it is a different life.

"Everything is done for you — you don't have to queue up in offices to get your daughter into a nursery school," he says.

At 4.30, we go to Wembley to train, and when we arrive there, we see the England players coming off the pitch after a lengthy workout. Brian Moore is at Wembley, he asks me to point out the Hungarian players to him, I let FA president Gyorgy Szepesi do that, since as an old reporter, he is a colleague of Moore. Meszoly stays in the dressing room with his players for nearly an hour for a thorough tactical talk, and when he emerges, he announces the team and the substitutes.

Wednesday: Day of the match, everybody is slightly nervous. John Warren brings over pennants and pins for the players, everybody is glad of these souvenirs. In the morning, there is a reception for the journalists and officials at the Hungarian Embassy, Puskas is invited — how times change.

The Under-21 team arrive from Newcastle just in time for lunch. They tell us that they were unlucky, they made one mistake and Walsh scored for England. "At home, we can beat this English team," is the general opinion.

I sit with Nyilasi to have a brief chat with him. What did you learn from the World Cup?

"Every team played a defensive game with the exception of Brazil, it is a great pity that their adventurous spirit cost them the game against Italy. The second-class countries are fast catching-up with the rest of the world, there are no longer any easy opponents."

Would you like to play abroad? "Of course! It seems that I shall have an opportunity to sign for a foreign club next summer. I have had offers from Spain, France and Austria. I will choose the best one. I do not think that my style of football would suit an English club. Look what happened to Petrovic at Arsenal, and he is a good player. You've got here the best League in the world, but it is too strenuous, combative and tough. The rest of Europe is different."

What do you think of the standard of world football? "The Third World is coming to the fore. Their football is improving all the time and that makes me optimistic. There will always be an elite, and I would put England, W. Germany, Italy and Brazil in that category. I know that gates are falling everywhere.

"This is precisely the reason why it is imperative to play attacking, spectacular football. If we do that, then the existence of the clubs, the living standards of the players are safe. It is not difficult to be optimistic with such players around as Maradona, Zico, Platini, Falcao and several others."

Why did Italy fail so dismally in the European Championship? "It was too much to ask of them after the World Cup. They were playing above themselves in Spain, the European Championship came too soon afterwards. I didn't expect them to play any better and I am not surprised."

The afternoon passes slowly. The players are resting in their rooms, and then they come down for another closed doors tactical talk and another ham tea before the coach, with a police escort, sets out for Wembley. Meszoly changes the substitutes in the last minute because Kerekes is injured . . .

After the game, the boys have a quick buffet supper at Wembley and the buses set out at 10.30 to take them to Gatwick Airport. The chartered plane leaves at midnight and arrives at Budapest at 3 am local time. It has been a long day . . .

BRAZIL BACK IN EUROPE

From RICARDO WEISS in Sao Paulo

BRAZIL are back . . . not only on the international scene with the recent 3-2 defeat of Chile, but back in Europe.

That means Carlos Alberto Parreira is bringing his squad over from South America this month for a tour which sweeps round from Portugal, to Wales, to Switzerland and on to Sweden.

It's taken 11 months for the Brazilians to get their show on the road again after that shock 3-2 defeat by Italy which knocked them out of the World Cup finals in Barcelona last summer.

There's no Tele Santana in charge now. Instead it's ex-Kuwait boss Carlos Alberto who calls the tune, and he named nine of the World Cup squad in his selection against Chile in Rio.

Leandro, Junior, Batista, Socrates, Zico and Eder were all in the team which began the game, while Pedrinho, Isidoro and Renato were on the substitutes' bench. There could have been more survivors, but centre back Oscar and midfielder Toninho Cerezo were ruled out because of injury.

To complete the team Carlos Alberto recalled veteran goalkeeper Emerson Leao, winger Tita and centre forward Careca (forced to miss the World Cup finals because of a last-minute injury). New men were the central defenders, Marcio of Santos — a surprise choice — and the tall and fast Flamengo defender Marinho.

The other reserves included goalkeeper Joao Marcos (Palmeiras), right back Paulo Roberto (Gremio), defender Nene (Palmeiras), new star midfielder Carlos Alberto Seixas (also Palmeiras) and left-winger Joao Paulo (Santos).

Out went goalkeeper Valdir Peres, defender Luizinho and striker Serginho, the latter despite his successes in the current Brazilian championship. Goalkeepers Paulo Sergio and Carlos, defenders Edevaldo and Juninho and Vasco da Gama marksman Roberto Dynamite were World Cup reserves who have been discarded.

Because the Italian league campaign was in full swing, of course, there was never any likelihood that Carlos Alberto could use Paulo Roberto Falcao, the Toma midfield general, or defender Edinho from Udinese . . . even if he wanted them. And that is open to question, since Carlos Alberto has declared himself well satisfied with the strength in depth available.

In the two days before the Chile game — which was all the new boss had to prepare his men, contrary to some of the stories about Brazil shutting down the nation's football for months before an international! — Carlos Alberto concentrated on tactical training and, in particular, the defence.

The eventual 3-2 win was hardly satisfying for the fans, though it must be said that several of the Brazilians were playing together for the first time and others had important championship matches only two or three days later.

A crowd of 53,468 saw the game, and with Paraguay's Gabriel Gonzalez refereeing, the teams were:

Brazil: Leao — Leandro, Marcio, Marinho, Junior (Pedrinho) — Batista, Socrates, Zico (Renato) — Tita (Paolo Isidoro), Careca, Eder (Joao Paulo).

Chile: Wirth — Espinoza (Reyes), Pacheco (Mosquera), Diaz, Valenzuela — Dubo, Neiras (J. Soto), Gamboa — Rojas, Hurtado, Orellana.

This was also Chile's first game since the World Cup and they too had a new boss in Luis Ibarra.

Careca opened the scoring in the 20th minute of a poor game which frequently drew loud complaint from the crowd. Left back Junior, in particular, was sadly out of form and was replaced at half-time, although Brazil still led 2-1 — Eder scoring a 42nd-minute goal after Orellana's 36th-minute equaliser.

In the second half Orellana scored another Chilean equaliser and it wasn't until three minutes from the end that Renato, appearing as substitute for Zico, scored the winner.

A narrow victory, but it is these men who will form the backbone of Brazil's tour squad. Carlos Alberto has said that he does not expect to make major changes in building a team for the 1986 World Cup — a tournament which, he says, "it is our sole objective to win."

BRAZIL NATIONAL TEAM

Player	Full name	Club	Pos	Age	Caps
LEAO	Emerson Leao	Corinthians	GK	33	67
JOAO MARCOS	Joao Marcos Bueno da Silva	Palmeiras	GK	29	0
ACACIO	Acacio Cordeiro Barreto	Vasco	GK	24	0
LEANDRO	Jose Leandro de Sousa Ferreira	Flamengo	RB	24	10
PAULO ROBERTO	P. Roberto Curtis Cesta	Gremio	RB	21	0
MARCIO	Marcio Antonio Rossini	Santos	CB	22	1
MARINHO	Mario Caetano Filho	Flamengo	CB	28	1
NENE	Jose Luiz Santana	Palmeiras	CB	25	0
OSCAR	Jose Oscar Bernardi	Sao Paulo	CB	28	50
JUNIOR	Leovegildo Lins Gama Jun.	Flamengo	LB	28	43
PEDRINHO	Pedro Luiz Vicençote	Palmeiras	LB	25	8
BATISTA	Joao Batista da Silva	Palmeiras	MF	28	31
SOCRATES	Socrates Brasileiro Sampaio de Sousa Ferreira Oliveira	Corinthians	MF	28	41
ZICO	Artur Antunes Coimbra	Flamengo	MF	30	68
CARLOS ALBERTO	Carlos Alberto Borges	Palmeiras	MF	22	0
RENATO	Carlos Renato Frederico	Sao Paulo	MF	26	16
DEMA	Valdemar Barbosa	Santos	MF	23	0
PITA	Edvaldo Oliveira Chaves	Santos	MF	24	3
JORGINHO	Jorge Antonio Putinatti	Palmeiras	OR/M	23	0
TITA	Milton Queiros da Paixao	Gremio	OR/M	25	9
PAULO ISIDORO	P. Isidoro de Jesus	Santos	OR/M	29	39
CARECA	Ant. de Oliveira Filho	Sao Paulo	CF	22	6
REINALDO	Jose Reinaldo de Lima	At. Mineiro	CF	26	28
EDER	Eder Aleixo de Assis	At. Mineiro	OL	26	27
JOAO PAULO	J. Paulo de Lima Filho	Santos	OL	25	1

Tour schedule — June 8, Portugal v Brazil (Lisbon). **June 12,** Wales v Brazil (Cardiff). **June 17,** Switzerland v Brazil (Basel). **June 22,** Sweden v Brazil (Gothenburg). The proposed match against West Germany on June 12 was replaced by the Wales fixture.

Whether Leao will still be around then, one doubts. A reserve in the 1970 squad, Leao was first choice in 1974 and 1978, but then fell out of favour because of his militant leadership of the players' union.

His recall to the national team must be seen as only temporary. Carlos Alberto makes no secret of his long-term faith in Acacio, the Vasco man who was the revelation of last year's Rio championship and who missed the Chile game because of a broken thumb.

In their usual meticulous way the Brazilians are leaving nothing to chance on tour. They have asked their opponents' federations for details of the match balls and will have a selection flown out for use in training.

Representatives have even taken a close look at the Ninian Park match venue in Wales, booked the entire floor of a local hotel for the duration of their stay, and put a local dentist on 24-hour standby. They will fly from Lisbon to Cardiff by charter too, so as not to tire the players unnecessarily with a three-hour coach trip from Heathrow.

A £20,000 match guarantee plus expenses of around £15,000 will still leave the Welsh with match profits of more than £50,000 — a cash bonanza only to be expected from the visit of the world's most spectacular and — and most successful — national team.

Brazilian football, like almost every other country's, has been hit by a financial crisis. Yet a 122,000 crowd, paying record domestic receipts of £150,000, turned out in Maracana recently to see Flamengo against Vasco da Gama, and attendances have increased dramatically in the closing stages of the Brazilian championship.

From first and second round crowd averages of 15,600 and 19,300, the third round figures doubled to 38,000 — even though some of the big names have fallen by the wayside. These include Internacional, the only club to have won the championship three times (in 1975, 1976 and 1979), Cruzeiro (runners-up in 1974 and 1975), Botafogo and Fluminense.

A surprise success was that of Ferroviaria of Araraquara, the Sao Paulo minnows. As a result coach Sebastiao Lapola was named at the head of the Brazilian squad for the Toulon youth tournament in France.

Even their run came to an end however in the third round when they finished bottom of their group. The quarter-final draw was: Goias v Santos, Vasco v Flamengo, Sport Recife v Atletico Mineiro and Atletico Parana v Sao Paulo.

Mineiro, 1971 champions, have all the qualities needed to win again. The long-range shooting of Eder and veteran right-back Nelinho, the fine form of centre forward Reinaldo and the defensive security of Luzinho and goalkeeper Joao Leite compensate for the absence in midfield of injured Toninho Cerezo.

Flamengo's line-up shows few changes, apart from the departure of Tita on loan to Gremio in exchange for centre forward Baltazar. But coach Carlinhos — who replaced Paulo Cesar Carpeggiani — was dismissed himself after only four games and now 1970 World Cup skipper Carlos Alberto Torres is in the hot seat. He couldn't have made a better start, Flamengo thrashing Corinthians 5-1 — and Corinthians are coached by Ze Maria, Carlos Alberto's 1970 World Cup reserve.

Ze Maria is also a recent appointment, having succeeded Mario Travaglini who resigned in protest at too much player power.

As for Pele's old club Santos, they should have no trouble reaching the semi-finals against Goias. Watch out for their new star Dema, a midfielder in the mould of Zico and Glodoaldo.

Keir Radnedge reports

SCANDAL

Inter Milan face relegation

INTERNAZIONALE of Milan, twice winners of the World Club Cup and the European Champions' Cup, 12 times Italian champions and three times domestic cup-winners, face the threat of relegation — on the orders of the Italian federation.

That is the amazing possibility thrown wide open by the latest Italian scandal; a shoddy, disreputable business whose effect on the game's image in Italy has undone much of the good done by last year's World Cup win.

The clock has been set back three years, to the season when the run-up to Italy's staging of the European championship finals was overshadowed by the betting and bribes scandal . . . a scandal which ended, consider the bitter irony, with Inter's neighbours Milan being dropped into the Second Division as punishment for the involvement of officials and players.

The latest bombshell — and one which has certainly diluted much of the publicity surrounding Roma's well-merited and impressive victory in the league championship — erupted on March 27, immediately after Inter had just snatched a 3-2 away win over Genoa.

A late goal from Inter midfielder Salvatore Bagni had decided the game. But curiously, as some fans and officials and journalists noted at the time and as TV film proved later, there was very little celebrating among the Inter squad as the goal went in . . .

After the game Genoa technical director Giorgio Vitali (once of Milan!) complained: "The Inter directors should be told publicly that their players are a bunch of no-gooders. There are some things *one just doesn't do* five minutes from the end of a game."

The obvious inference was that there had been an agreement — either between the players or between the clubs, to share the points; Genoa, with one eye anxiously fixed on the relegation zone, needed all the points they could get. Inter, on the other hand, knew they had next to no chance of catching Roma at the top.

The next day Corrado De Biase, the federation's trouble-shooter, appointed a Lawyer who had helped on the betting and bribes scandal, Aldo Ferrari-Ciboldi, to investigate.

Ferrari-Ciboldi moved quickly. Within three days he had interviewed Genoa president Renzo Fossati, Vitali, and the players Pasquale Iachini and Giuliano Fiorini.

Then he moved to Milano, to talk to Giancarlo Beltrami, the Inter general manager, as well as Inter players Fulvio Collovati (the national team centre-back), skipper and sweeper Graziano Bini — one of Inter's goalscorers in the game — and match-winner Bagni.

Vitali was later named by the federation to answer a charge of bringing the game into disrepute. But there the matter appeared to rest. The illegal football pools organisers all denied any involvement in a fix and the case seemed to have finished up in a cul-de-sac.

Graziano Bini . . . at the centre of controversy with Inter Milan.

And then came the decisive, and most controversial, aspect of the reaction to the story: the Milan newspaper *Il Giorno* published an interview with Inter's Brazilian forward, Juary, alleging that after the game Bini and Bagni had been physically attacked by several of their Inter teammates for breaking the fix.

The cat was out of the bag and no mistake!

Juary quickly announced that he would sue *Il Giorno* for libel; so did Inter. The journalists involved launched a counter-claim. But Ferrari-Ciboldi had been given a second wind.

He arranged a new series of interviews with players, medical staff, journalists and photographers; anyone who could have witnessed, or been told on sound authority, of what happened in the Inter dressing-room.

There were anxious denials all round. But Ferrari-Ciboldi felt there were grounds enough for the federation's disciplinary machinery to take action against the clubs and some of their players and officials.

If Genoa and Inter can maintain their stand that "there was no agreement and, anyway, if there was a tacit agreement between players it was a matter for them alone during the game," then the clubs may well hang on to their Serie A status. Punishment would be a fixed deduction of points next season in the league.

But if it emerges that club officials were involved in organising a result — or, at least, trying to — then relegation *a tavolino* is a real possibility.

It's ironic, isn't it, that after years in which the heart of soccer instability was Rome, it should have been Roma who this season have presented — thanks to the managerial wisdom of Nils Liedholm — the cool face of style and consistency in *Calcio*.

This is only Roma's second league championship. You have to go back to 1942 to find the other one. Then, too, it needed the guidance of a foreign coach. Alfred Schaffer, a Hungarian, to lift them to success.

As I write, the league has yet to finish, but Roma are sure of the championship. Juventus are four points behind, Inter six away, and then come Verona and Fiorentina. At the other end Catanzaro and Cesena are down and it's between Ascoli, Pisa, Avellino and Napoli as to who goes with them.

The league race pressure off, Juventus and Inter enjoyed themselves in a 3-3 draw in Turin. Inter led 2-0 at one stage, but Juventus hit back with goals from Michel Platini and one from Roberto Bettega to draw. It was an unhappy ending to the game for Bettega, however, since he was sent off after collecting a second booking. Bettega had been a hero only a fortnight earlier, scoring Juve's 3,000th Italian league goal, in a 5-0 win over Ascoli. Yet another record to go with Dino Zoff's surpassing of Silvio Piola's long-standing record of 566 league appearances.

As for Inter's players, the Juventus game was a minor triumph for Hansi Müller. The West German midfielder's future with the club remains in doubt after a poor first season in Italy. But at least he scored a good goal which made some amends for his awful blunder in the 2-0 win over Avellino — when he wasted a golden chance either of scoring himself or of passing to Sandro Altobelli, who was even better placed.

Altobelli was so annoyed he ran over to Müller and slapped his face! Altobelli duly collected a £1,000 club fine.

Calcio is nothing if not dramatic. Fiorentina were involved in another widely-publicised 'case'. The Florence club, who began the season with such high hopes and such dreadful results, have pulled themselves together admirably.

But they owed their 1-0 win over Ascoli to a goal from Argentina's Daniel Passarella scored immediately after Fiorentina skipper Giancarlo Antognoni had felled Ascoli's Hubert Pircher with an elbow in the face. Referee Longhi, summoned by his linesman's urgent flagging, awarded the goal before consulting the official and then sending off Antognoni.

Ascoli have protested that the goal should be annulled and the match replayed because the referee was at fault; he should have stopped play and dealt with Antognoni immediately, thus preventing Passarella's strike.

★ ★ ★

Late news: After an appeal, Inter were awarded a 2-0 *a tavolino* win for the 3-3 draw against Juventus because Juve fans attacked the Inter team bus before the game, Giampiero Marini needing hospital attention for a head gash.

SCANDAL

Jan-Hermen De Bruijn reports

Dutch FA Chairman resigns

MONDAY, April 25 was a very important day in the history of Dutch football as the board of the Dutch FA was sent packing by the professional clubs . . . three days after chairman Eric Vilé had resigned because of the Utrecht scandal.

It all started on Friday, April 22, when Vilé organised a press conference. He announced that the official prosecutor had not found grounds to act against him.

Unlike eight former Utrecht directors, the manager (Cor Hesselberth), the coach (Hans Berger) and five players (Hans Van Breukelen — now at Nottingham Forest — Wim van Hanegem, Leo van Veen, Joop Wildbret and Gerard van der Lew) Eric Vilé was cleared of charges relating to under-the-counter payments.

But, Vilé added, since there has been an almost non-stop press campaign against him, he thought it to be wise to quit as chairman of the KNVB.

He declared the case had already damaged his professional reputation (Vilé is a lawyer) and his personal life. He said: "In the last couple of months, a significant part of the Dutch press have written articles with a continuous flow of unfounded, unmotivated and scandalous publicity. Without waiting for the judgment of the prosecutor, they have all written that I am guilty. And it was more than that; they also started to write how I function in my normal job and started to damage my image. That is unacceptable for a lawyer who needs the complete trust of his clients.

"My partners in my law firm and my clients have begged me to stop, and although I wanted to continue very, very much, I thought in the end it was the best thing to do."

Vilé did not say that when he announced his resignation, it was almost certain that he, and his fellow FA board members, would have been kicked out anyway.

As early as April 15 the professional clubs had agreed on a motion of non-confidence in the board, since the board — in their negotiations with the government — have not paid any attention to their general assembly instructions.

The problems are all about abandoning the transfer-system (something the Government wants since it is contrary to human rights) and about the forming of a special fund through which the richer clubs can support their poorer colleagues. But the biggest problem of all is the fact that most clubs are irritated by the fact that the government — who support the clubs financially — wants more and more to say in football organisation.

SOREN LERBY . . . all set to join Bayern Munich.

So it was not a surprise that on the evening of April 25 the board of the Dutch FA (who did not fight hard enough against Government influence, the clubs thought) were ousted by 350 votes to 326. Only the board representatives of the players' union and the managers' union remained in office.

Out on the pitch, meanwhile, it's been all Ajax. Having secured the league title once more, they then took a 3-1 lead over Nigmegen in the first leg of the cup final.

Ajax's greatest rivals, Feyenoord, knew almost from the start of the season that their team were inferior. Their game was based on physical strength, supported by the new men such as Peter Houtman (league top scorer with 27 goals in 32 games) midfielder Michel Valke (on loan from PSV for a year) and the brilliant but inconsistent Ruud Gullit.

The champions, on the other hand, had players regularly able to make their mark on a game. For example, goalkeeper Piet Schrijvers, now 37, played the best season of his career and made a surprising national team comeback. Soren Lerby proved an inspiration in midfield (until the talk of his transfer to Bayern Munich began) and Johan Cruyff was . . . Johan Cruyff.

The old master did not start the season well. He missed a few games because of injury and when he came back looked more interested in organisaing the team than playing well himself. After the home game with PSV Eindhoven it was said that the Ajax board were fed up with Johan Cryff, and rumours grew stronger that they did not want to give him a new contract.

He then showed what only world class players can do. He changed from his sweeper-position to his 'normal' midfield position and started to play very well indeed . . . even scoring goals again. He, personally, sunk PSV in the semi-final of the Dutch Cup then played marvellosly against PEC/Zwolle and in the 8-2 battering of Willem II.

The day Ajax won the title, was the day they played Feyenoord in the Amsterdam Olympic Stadium. Over 60,000 people were present but the 'Big Match' was very much influenced by torrential rain and thunderstorms.

Schrijvers declared after the game that he had been frightened: "There were continous flashes of lightning, and I was always standing in a lot of water; I think the referee should have stopped the game."

But Charles Corver, Holland's controversial World Cup referee who retires now, did not do such a thing and the 60,000 fans could enjoy a 3-3 draw.

Hautman put Feyenoord ahead in the 15th minute but Lerby levelled four minutes later and before half-time Vanenburg (Ajax) and Houtman again added two more (2-2).

After 50 minutes Wim Kieft (last year European top scorer, this season mostly a reserve) scored a third goal for Ajax, but it was Feyenoord's Bulgarian international Jeliaskov who made it 3-3 after 62 minutes.

Ajax: Schrijvers — Molenaar (Van Basten, 74), Van Veen — (Kieft 25), Ophof, Boeve — Silooy, Schoenaker, Cruyff, Lerby — Vanenburg, Olsen.

Feyenoord: Hiele — Troost (Van Hanegen 70), Gullit, Stafleu, Wijnstekers — Hoedstra, Valke, Van Deinsen — Jeliaskov, Houtman, Vermeulen (Neilsen 42).

Ajax will be handicapped in the Champions' Cup next season since some experienced players will leave Amsterdam. Lerby will go to Munich and Schrijvers and reserve-defender Leo van Veen leaves for Edmonton where they are due to play for the Eagles in the new Canadian League.

There is still a big question-mark about whether Cruyff wants to continue playing for Ajax. Or rather, if the board want him to continue.

Cruyff is not too worried. He knows what he can do and he knows that a lot of clubs know it too. Feyenoord for example. Ajax's big rivals are said to have made Cryff a very good offer, based on a percentage of match receipts next season.

Schrijvers said: "A player like Cryff is just what they need in Rotterdam. Fighting spirit has brought them back to the top in Dutch football. But to be champions you need somebody who can organise; Cryff is such a player."

BRAZIL BUT WH FOR ME

THE WORLD CUP should have gone to Brazil and it is going to Mexico. Such is the shabby situation, which defies all logical explanation; and extenuation. Talk to people high in FIFA, though not as high as the egregious Havelange, and they will tell you that Brazil were the manifest, logical choice when Colombia (an idiotic choice at any time) dropped out; that Brazil would have gone ahead had not Havelange's influence prevailed.

Such is the view of the embittered Giulite Coutinho, the disappointed President of the Brazilian Soccer Confederation, and Havelange's arch foe. Such is the belief roundly expressed in a recent issue of *France Football* in which the candidature of the United States was analysed.

That Giulite and Havelange have for years been at daggers drawn, that this was the true reason why Brazil did not get the World Cup, seems to be regarded as conventional wisdom. That Mexico should be in line to get it is another matter entirely. *Don Balon*, the vigorously aggressive Barcelona weekly, made no bones at all about it. Under the heading **Havelange plays dirty**, they reported, last February, that the President of FIFA had allegedly made a trip to Mexico City in the private jet owned by Señor Ascaraga, the millionaire chief executive of the Mexican television chain, Televisa. This does not of itself prove anything at all, even if true, except that Señor Havelange may not be the most discreet of men; but it bears thinking about, in context.

PETER WITHE . . . a gamble which came off.

That FIFA should roundly, on not one but two occasions, insist that Mexico were the best contenders, refusing even to send an investigative committee to the United States, took the breath away with its autocratic arrogance. No wonder the Americans, as good democrats, even if they don't know the first thing about football, were incensed. The crudity of FIFA's behaviour, the shamelessness of it, if you choose, was hard to explain.

The merest modicum of tactic, diplomacy, high cunning, call it what you please, would surely have suggested the blandishment of a visit to America, even if it were the administrative equivalent of filming an interview with an unwanted but awkward subject, with no film in the television camera.

Yet, if Havelange seems to be becoming an increasingly autocratic figure, putting his own nominees into key positions in FIFA (Blatter has succeeded Kaser as Secretary, Courte has gone the way of all flesh as Press Officer) whose fault is that but the rest of FIFA? The man, who inflicted on us the 24-team World Cup and the World Youth Tournament, not to mention the superfluous new FIFA House in Zurich, was voted back into power *nem. con.*, at the last FIFA assembly in Madrid, in 1982.

As for the 24-team World Cup, which is now estimated as being beyond the reach of all but six or seven nations in the world, that became grim, bleak reality when the European countries ratted on UEFA and voted it in, secure in the knowledge that they themselves would have double the chance of qualifying (like England, who sneaked in so wretchedly by the back door).

Mexico is a monstrous choice for the World Cup tournament for many reasons, not least that of finance. Havelange was

asserting long ago that Brazil would never be able to afford the huge costs of running security for the competition. Perhaps he was right. But when he blithely says, as he was quoted as doing in Paris, that Mexico, with an $80bn. debt, is much better off than Brazil, at a $100bn., you wonder if he takes us all as cretins. Perhaps he does, and should. After all, he is still there, after eight unfortunate years. Nearly nine.

OUT Y GO XICO?

There is, as many others have pointed out, also the matter of the altitude. True, it is possible to acclimatise to it, but the fact remains that doing so is an enormously expensive business, necessitating weeks of preliminary training at high level. The question of the heat can be circumvented if only FIFA don't do what they unforgiveably did in 1970, when they insisted that many games be played in the torrid sun of noon, simply to gratify the wishes of European television.

The United States have been given all sorts of silly and conflicting reasons for not being awarded the World Cup. We have been told that the great distances are unacceptable, but distances in Brazil are as great, and the Americans have offered already to confine the tournament, if required, to the Eastern time zone. We have been told that there is limited interest in soccer in the United States, which is true, but the suggestion, after Reagan's endorsement of the plan, that there would be no government backing is as ludicrous as the suggestion that there is little interest in the game in American schools.

You might almost assume that the whole business simply *must* be open and above board since the rejection of the American bid has been made in so clumsy, authoritarian and inept a way; right down to Blatter's fatuous statement that only four answers were in effect given when half a dozen were needed. Much more to the point, and certainly germane, is that the unimpressive US Soccer Federation has made a pig's ear of the arrangements for the Olympic soccer tournament. But that in itself was hardly a sufficient reason not at least to examine the facilities, let alone award the tournament to hot, high, bankrupt Mexico.

★ ★ ★

IN ENGLAND, the proposed merger of Oxford United and Reading led, very properly and explicitly, to violent responses in the two towns, culminating in a sit-in on the pitch at Oxford, and the jeering and baiting of Robert Maxwell, in the Oxford United directors' box, till he left at half time.

At the press conference which he wholly dominated, the previous evening, at the FA Headquarters in Lancaster Gate, Maxwell was giving us a muted, reasonable, exquisitely sporting new version of himself. Those of us who have keenly followed his astonishing career over the past 30 years, through the Simpkin Marshall book distributors saga, that of Pergamon, and that of the short-lived *Glasgow Evening* (or was it *Daily*?) whatever it was, had never before associated him with such docile tactics, such tender appeals to the dissident Reading directors to behave like sportsmen, not hooligans, and settle the matter in the boardroom.

What had happened to the roistering, flamboyant figure we had once all known and loved?

The picture of Robert Maxwell being vilely abused, even spat on, a passive, smiling, uncomplaining (till afterwards) figure as he sat in the Oxford United directors' box was enough to wring withers far less vulnerable to pity than my own.

At the time of writing, it appeared that the opposition to the merger had but modest chance of success, but I must say I wish it no success at all, and feel it will have very little if it does take place. If Maxwell thinks that it represents the future of the game, then heaven help the future of the game. There is so much wishful thinking and blinking of brute facts involved that one realises, not for the first time, that the hardest-headed businessman becomes a starry-eyed visionary once he steps into a football boardroom.

Projected

Of course I am prepared to accept that, even with the projected sports, leisure and shopping centre at Didcot, or wherever it is ultimately put down, Maxwell and the Reading chairman, Waller, do not stand to make a penny out of it. Who in their senses ever went into the directorial side of football in the hope of gaining, rather than spending? But I find it very difficult to follow the two chairmen's logic.

Reading are in the black, though as Waller pointed out, they will shortly, or would shortly, most probably be losing £100,000 a year, while it would cost about eight times as much to rebuild their ancient Elm Park Stadium, with its pleasing accretions of football history.

Most football fans in Reading, he said, sadly, simply went up to London for their soccer. Why, I asked him, did he anticipate anything at all different if and when the clubs moved jointly to a site in the Thames Valley? Mr Maxwell, who tended to field the bulk of the questions, replied that market research was done, and he was confident.

Why? Merging two dud teams to form a joint team seems no great recipe to me; producing a team playing such attractive football that the "bored" inhabitants of the Thames Valley would come flocking necessitates more money, I fancy, than even Robert Maxwell can provide.

Besides, what is this perpetually recurring myth of family entertainment? When did families, *per se*, ever go to watch the game *en masse* in Britain? And why should they start now, just because Robert Maxwell dumps a leisure centre in the middle of the Thames Valley, with its exiguous population of 1.8 million?

Pie in the sky, it all seems to me, and if Maxwell believes that city fathers are sick of football clubs (I truly wonder), that the future lies in plonking them out in the middle of nowhere, then I suggest the game has no future at all. We shall see. Meanwhile, long live the dissidents, not least the Reading director who, permitted at last by Maxwell to speak at the end of the Press Conference, replied that he had no desire to do so.

He was, he said, "pig sick".

★ ★ ★

ONE of the stranger suggestions one has lately seen is that we should have a Super League . . . without relegation. The seductive if facile thinking behind this is that the prospect of relegation breeds tension, tension breeds bad football, ergo, the lack of relegation would bring good football. If that sounds syllogistic to you, then I am with you.

Curiously enough, though, there can be no doubt at all that the prospect of relegation can indeed create tension, the latter stages of the season in the First Division have, in fact, created all sorts of splendid drama. Far from breeding negative football, it seems to have done exactly the reverse. Teams playing for their survival have tended to play out of their skins, especially Norwich City who, after seeming damned and doomed, embarked on a wonderful period of form, culminating in their superb 2-0 victory last April at Anfield, where they wiped the smile off Liverpool's smug face and made them wait a little longer for the championship.

Luton Town, too, far from retreating into their shell when doom seemed inexorably upon them, sturdily endeavoured to play their way out with good football, scoring a number of notable successes, not the worst of which was a 3-0 home win against Swansea (the worst, most dreary and defensive team I saw in the relegation belt).

All three goals went to the effervescent little Paul Walsh, the while Bobby Robson, for all his good intensions, was calling up for the England party against Hungary huge, hefty Peter Withe, the very archetype of an old-fashioned English centre-forward, and one who, in all conscience, had surely been given more than enough chances to fail.

Yet it must be admitted that in the short-term Bobby Robson's gamble came off wonderfully well. Peter Withe had a splendid game against the Hungarians at Wembley, the best he'd ever played for England. Withe's courage. Robson's last-minute luck.

The BRIAN GLANVILLE column

Champagn
heading fo

A TALE of two Scottish centre-forwards . . . ALEX GORDON profiles Celtic's exciting newcomer Charlie Nicholas . . . . . .and DERICK ALLSOP travels to Milan to meet veteran Joe Jordan.

FLAMBOYANT Charlie Nicholas — with nicknames ranging rom Champagne Charlie to Good-Time Charlie — is this season's footballing phenomenon in Britain.

Air-traffic control at Glasgow airport has been working overtime with the mesmerising amount of managers, coaches and scouts who have been paying flying visits to Parkhead this year to watch the effervescent 21-year-old goal-machine in thrilling action.

And I've got to make this prediction, one that not even I can get wrong: Charlie Nicholas WILL be playing in England very soon.

Whether or not he will leave his beloved Celtic when his contract expires on June 30 remains to be seen, but certainly he should be leading the Scottish international firing line against England at Wembley on Wednesday, June 1.

All the speculation of his joining Liverpool/Spurs/Manchester Uniter/Aston Villa/Real Madrid/SV Hamburg/Uncle Tom Cobley United hasn't sidetracked this amazingly mature and extremely popular young man.

He can demolish defences with his demon strikes, he can tease and torment opponents with his breathtaking ball-control, he can dictate and single-handedly change the course of game with his God-given ability, but at the end of the day after yet another barrage of glaring headlines he is still as refreshing as ever and still answerable to his mum and dad who stay in a council house in Glasgow.

I would dearly love to see Charlie Nicholas stay in Scottish football. He is a rare gem and even if Celtic got £1 million for him they wouldn't be indulging in good financial dealing. Even in today's faltering market a buying club could keep him for four years and STILL make a profit on him if they sold him again.

People look at Charlie Nicholas, like what they see and, for some strange reason or another, think he should be playing his football elsewhere. It's an annoying and infuriating aspect of our football.

Nicholas is currently playing for Celtic and in prestige terms they are certainly one of the biggest clubs in the world. They can attract vast numbers of fans and they are virtually guaranteed European football every year by their sheer consistency on the domestic scene.

And if there is anyone outside Scotland who still believes Scottish soccer is simply all about Celtic and Rangers then I think they are being short-changed by their shrink.

CHARLIE NICHOLAS in a typical pose . . . taking the salute of the adoring Celtic fans after yet another goal for the Parkhead side. This time it's deadly rivals Rangers who are on the receiving end.

Aberdeen, surely, have underlined that the Premier Division is one of the most competitive in Europe. Dundee United, too, are an extremely competent outfit and I firmly believe another year or so will see teams such as Hibs, Dundee, St Mirren and, possibly, Motherwell reaching a greater standard.

People continually talk about the English First Division or the West German *Bundesliga* being the strongest, the mightiest in Europe, but Scottish soccer stands good comparison against these countries.

Aberdeen knocked out the famed Bayern Munich from the Cup Winners' Cup this season while Rangers, even while going through a troubled patch, were too good for Borussia Dortmund.

Last term Dundee United took five goals off Borussia Moenchengladbach in a memorable UEFA Cup confrontation at Tannadice.

Dutch football, too, is being lauded again after dropping into an air pocket for a few seasons, but this season Celtic beat the Johan Cruyff-inspired Ajax while Dundee United gave PSV Eindhoven only their second home defeat in Europe. I should point out, by the way, that PSV's only other defeat on their home soil came from Rangers!

So, hopefully I've made my point; Charlie Nicholas is NOT too good for Scottish football. Or vice-versa.

The lad's scoring feats this season have been quite incredible, even more so when you consider he broke a leg in a Reserve fixture only last season yet battled back with typically grim determination to show everyone he was not a one-season wonder.

Nicholas has nothing to prove to anyone after his feats this term. He has scored a mountain of goals, a veritable avalanche of praiseworthy efforts against a variety of opponents.

He scored a magnificent goal against Ajax in Amsterdam, he has netted for the Under-21 side, goals have flowed in the Premier Division, the Scottish Cup and the League Cup, including a superb early strike for the opening score in the 2-1 victory over Rangers in the Final.

And, almost inevitably, he scored against Switzerland on his debut for the full international side at Hampden recently in the 2-2 European Championship draw.

I don't have to go into too much detail about that particular goal, it's been described fully from Tottenham to Timbuctoo. Qute simply, it was a typical effort from Charlie, combining determination, grace and execution while the defence were still working out exactly what was happening.

Television went into raptures about the goal and critics who obviously don't see too much of the player were talking in glowing terms as though it were something totally unusual.

That was his first goal for Scotland's full international line-up, but, again making a prediction that can't possibly go awry, he will undoubtedly register an awful lot more before he decides to call it a day which is a long, long time away.

If Nicholas lines up alongside his hero Kenny Dalglish at Wembley in the Scottish attack — and I'm certain he will — English fans will be disappointed if they expect this young man to freeze. That won't happen . . . the lad's personal chemistry refuses to let him down. The bigger the occasion, the better he seems to play.

Let's face it, the pressure on him recently has been nothing short of awesome. No wonder his Celtic manager Billy McNeill just about blew his top when there were stories flying about all over the place about Liverpool getting ready to bid a measly £1 million for Nicholas AND Paul McStay!

e Charlie r England

If Liverpool ever got away with a deal like that they should put Bob Paisley in charge of the National Treasury . . . he would wipe out any deficit within a week.

When Liverpool were reported to have made this insulting — there is no other word — double bid, Celtic were involved in a hectic and enthralling race for their third successive Premier Division Championship as well as preparing for a titanic Scottish Cup semi-final showdown with European heroes Aberdeen.

I can think of better preparation for two young players in such a vital run-in than have their names linked with Liverpool. It's just another form of tapping it is disgusting.

Nicholas is now hot property. He is in the spotlight and it's difficult to see if falling elsewhere in the coming years.

Charlie may now admit his hat size altered slightly in his debut season for Celtic when, as a mere 19-year-old, he rocketed into the goalscoring charts and, not surprisingly, won the Young Scottish Player of the Year award. He may have been inclined to indulge just a bit too much in his newly-acquired fame, but, thankfully, his head is back to its normal size and he realises football isn't only about glitter or glamour.

A broken leg on a quiet, freezing winter's evening in the mud of Cappielow against Morton reserves with only a handful of snivering fans to share the agony certainly underlined that harsh fact. And the youngster, fairly obviously, hasn't forgotten that.

Joe Jordan

JORDAN UNMOVED

AMID the customary bedlam of rumoured and actual Italian transfer activity a Scotsman remains calmly adamant that he intends to stay put.

After two years of mixed fortunes with Milan Joe Jordan is hoping the club take up the 12-month option on his contract.

By the end of April, however, Jordan had had no talks with Milan. Instead he had to read a succession of stories about his employers scouring Italy and the rest of Europe for reinforcements of proven quality.

With promotion to the First Division virtually assured, a place in the Cup quarter-finals secured, Milan were anxious to stay on the ascendancy.

They have been linked with several top Continental players and one of the more recent grapevine communiques suggested they were negotiating an elaborate exchange deal to relieve Juventus of World Cup heroes Paolo Rossi and Marco Tardelli.

All of which leaves Jordan unmoved. He is content with his output this season and believes he is capable of filling a vital role next winter.

He had scored 10 goals — eight of them from headers — before a thigh injury put him out of action. By Italian standards, that is a tally worth writing home about.

Jordan told me: 'It's no secret the club are looking for new players. The papers here are always full of reports about transfer deals. You soon get used to that.

"But it honestly doesn't bother me, even when there are stories about strikers coming here. That may be true. They certainly seem to be looking for a midfield player.

"You can't blame them for wanting to strengthen the side, though. We've worked hard to get back to the First Division — assuming we are going to get back — and that effort mustn't be wasted.

"I want to stay here next year and I'm convinced that if, for instance, Rossi came here I could operate with him. Whatever the set-up, I would like to be a part of it.

"I'm not the only player still waiting to discuss a new contract so I'm not too worried about the situation. I'm hoping to have talks soon to sort out my future."

Jordan's contentment with football here has come the hard way. After his move from Manchester United he found himself in a struggling side and his first season culminated in relegation.

Almost inevitably, he was said to be on his way back to English football. Manchester City, then under John Bond, led the posse of interested clubs.

But nothing more came of their inquiries and the Scottish international striker resigned himself to a season in the Italian Second Division.

Jordan now says: "Obviously things didn't go as I'd hoped. It was a disappointing first season because I'd gone there with high expectations.

"But despite all that I can honestly say that I've never, at any time, wanted to leave this club. Not even when things weren't going so well for me or for the club."

Jordan's resolve has been strengthened by the happiness of his family. His wife, Judith, and children Lucy, four, Andrew, three, and Thomas, two, have settled and made friends.

"That has been important," says Jordan. "If they didn't enjoy it here it would make things so much more difficult. But my wife is very happy and the kids are growing up with Italian kids.

"I've picked up something of the language and try to keep improving it by reading the papers, learning a few new words as I go along."

For all that, Jordan acknowledges that he also needed satisfaction on the football field and that has come this season. When the side was reshaped — a few old faces went, a few new ones came — fresh balance and vitality was the result.

"One or two players of my age, my friends, were out. I was one of the senior players and suddenly there were several youngsters in the squad.

"But it worked. Now I believe we have the basis of a really good side. There's a lot of very promising talent and with one or two good signings, a bit of experience to guide them, they should go a long way."

An Easter injury sidelined Jordan with the First Division in sight and a promotion and Cup double a genuine prospect.

"I'm not rushing back because there's no need to take any risks with the injury. We should be sure of going up now and I want the thigh to be right for the Cup."

Jordan is confident that if and when promotion is achieved, Milan will be capable of holding their own. "It may not yet be realistic to talk of the Championship, but Europe could well be within the club's reach. I'd like to be part of their team bidding for that."

FINNISH OPTIMISM

from Pentti Hietanen

FINLAND achieved one of their most surprising results when they held Poland to 1-1 draw in Warsaw. Finland's performance once again highlighted the fact that there are no longer any pushovers in European football.

Poland, who have now dropped three points from their three European qualifiers, looked not only for two points but also for a hatful of goals against Finland and to that end made the effort of recalling Zbigniew Boniek from Juventus and Pawel Janas from Auxerre in France.

It was predictable that Finland would play defensively with sudden counter attacks — but not so predictable that they would do so with such composure and organisation that not even the superbly skilled Boniek could find any loopholes.

Although Poland ran the game, Finland could have scored more than just the one, which was headed into his own net by sweeper Janas. Quick breakaways often found four Finnish attackers against only three defenders but there was no-one to produce the finishing touch.

"I warned my players about Finland. I knew that on their day the Finns could be a handful", said Poland's coach Antoni Piechniczek after a vastly disappointing result, which now makes Poland the outsiders in qualifying group two.

International status

"Poland are still every bit as good as they were in Spain last summer. It is just that we, too, have made progress," said Finland's 37-year-old coach Martti Kuusela. Although Finland have no chance of qualifying, Kuusela stresses that every point is still valuable.

"It is most important for us to start winning games. Only that way can we improve our international status. Narrow defeats and draws, even if they are achieved against top countries, are simply not good enough."

What made the result in Poland even more remarkable was the fact that when the game was played the league season in Finland had not even started. Kuusela also had serious problems with some of his key players.

First he had to leave out two of his best strikers Ari Valvee and Keijo Kousa, who were both injured in pre-season training. Then midfielder Pasi Rautiainen failed to show up in Warsaw without giving any explanation.

Rautiainen, who plays in the Bundesliga for Arminia Bielefeld, has had disagreements with the national team in the past, too. In 1981 he and his club, at that time Werder Gremen, were both fined by the Finnish FA after the player had pulled out of Finland's squad for a World Cup tie in Bulgaria. Rautiainen has in his contract a clause which obliges him to represent Finland if he is chosen and is fit.

A much happier end was provided by Finland's other foreign mercenary, Notts County's defender Aki Lahtinen. He turned out in an English first division match against Luton Town a day before the game in Poland. Next morning he took a plane to Warsaw but, as was feared, the flight was delayed and Lahtinen finally arrived at the stadium only about forty minutes before kick-off. The opening elevens had already been named, so Lahtinen had to start by sitting on the substitutes' bench.

Hardest league

But Lahtinen, however, managed to show just what playing in arguably the hardest league in the world has done for his game. In the 39th minute he replaced injured left-back Remes and showed no signs of tiredness in keeping a tight reign on Wlodek Smolarek.

The Poland match was Finland's ninth under Kuusela. Only one of these games has resulted in victory for the Finns, if we discount those achieved indoor. And even that one win over Iceland (3-2 in Helsinki) seems to have gone unnoticed abroad, most likely because it was played on the same day as the World Cup final between Italy and West Germany.

But although Kuusela, a former international midfield player and the first Finn to obtain a West German coaching licence knows that while Finland still have some way to go before success can be gained on a more consistent basis, there are grounds for optimism.

Norway's recent run of good results has given new heart to Finland, too, and it shows that even a small country with part-time players and a long, severe winter can succeed. The average age of Finland's team in Warsaw was less than 24 years, so clearly this is a team for the future.

"I was fairly satisfied with the way our defence coped with the Polish attacks", Kuusela said. "It was our plan not to give the Poles any room to move down the flanks and thus force their attacks to come through the middle. This worked better than we had dreamed.

"If only we could have a bit more punch up-front. But there is a serious lack of genuinely quick attacking players in this country. I have told our youth coaches not to get rid of their quick players even if they are not so great on the ball."

Best finisher

Finland's team has always been famous for its inability to take even the easiest of chances. Of the current players, Atik Ismail, the talented but inconsistent HJK striker, is probably still the best finisher. But Ismail, Kuusela claims, doesn't enjoy playing as an out-and-out striker and often drops deep into midfield.

Ari Valvee has five goals from 14 full international matches. Valvee is not a great player, but his straightforward pace and shooting power make him an ideal man for swift counter attacks. Keijo Kousa, too, has usually done well (four goals in 13 full internationals). He is a rather physical, old-fashioned centreforward, who does a lot of unselfish "dirty" work up-front.

With Valvee and Kousa out injured, Kuusela made a surprise choice by drafting in 18-year-old Mika Lipponen for his international debut against Poland.

Kuusela points out that the clubs must work harder to bring up better attacking types. Finnish Boys' and Youth teams have enjoyed a relatively good success in various international tournaments. But when these youngsters have reached their twentieth birthdays their progress has already started to slow down, mainly because at that age they already have to divide their time with football and civil jobs.

There has been a great demand for a more professional attitude. But, with spectators and business life giving so little support to the game, the resources are very limited.

Lately, however, there has also been a great influx of foreign coaches into the Finnish game. No fewer than five first division clubs have coaches from Poland.

FINLAND'S 1983 SQUAD

PLAYER	CLUB	BORN	CAPS
Goalkeepers:			
Olli Huttunen	Valkeakosken Haka	4.8.60	14
Olli Isoaho	Arminia Bielefeld (WG)	2.3.56	16
Pertti Alaja	Malmö FF (Swe)	18.2.52	27
Defenders:			
Aki Lahtinen	Notts County (Eng)	31.10.58	29
Esa Pekonen	Kuusysi	4.10.61	15
Ilkka Remes	Kuusysi	29.7.63	10
Mikael Granskog	IFK Norrköping (Swe)	26.3.61	10
Pauno Kymäläinen	Turun Palloseura	14.11.49	11
Midfield:			
Jukka Ikäläinen	Örgryte IS (Swe)	14.5.57	18
Pasi Rautiainen	Arminia Bielefeld (WG)	18.7.61	17
Kari Ukkonen	Cercle Brugge (Bel)	19.2.61	1
Hannu Turunen	Kuopion Palloseura	1.5.56	31
Juha Annunen	Kuusysi	16.4.60	8
Leo Houtsonen	Oulun Palloseura	25.10.58	24
Strikers:			
Peter Utriainen	Gefle IF (Swe)	20.11.60	9
Atik Ismail	Helsingin Jalkapalloklubi	5.1.57	25
Ari Valvee	Valkeakosken Haka	1.12.60	14
Keijo Kousa	Kuusysi	27.7.59	13
Ari Hjelm	Tampereen Ilves	24.2.62	3
Tuomo Hakala	Rovaniemen Palloseura	9.10.57	11
Mika Lipponen	Turun Palloseura	9.5.64	1

ALBANIA by Keir Radnedge

The unknowns are unmasked!

ALBANIA'S lack of international achievement — after all, they don't always emerge for the World Cup or European championship! — is most obvious from the fact that they have provided very few players of real international class.

That's the problem which besets current national manager Shyqyri Rreli as Albania appear well poised to finish bottom of group six of the European championship.

Rreli himself was an outstanding player with Dinamo Tirana in the mid-1950s, being a member of their championship-winning team on four occasions and also playing four times for Albania.

But what international knowledge he has collected has come from trips he has been allowed to make on coaching courses in Cologne (with the West German federation) and, very recently, in Italy with Torino coach Eugenio Bersellini.

Rreli was being groomed for the job of national manager long ago. Though he took over only during last summer, he had been in charge of the under-21s for the three previous years and it is this young squad on which he bases his national team.

Players such as goalkeeper Musta, defenders Ruci and Hametaj, and forwards Vukatana and Omuri were all in the under-21 team who twice won the Balkan Cup, in 1981 and 1982.

Few Albanians are allowed beyond their own borders but Rreli has taken advantage of his privileges to collect as much about international football as he can, both in the form of books and video cassettes.

The problem is then to translate what he has learned to his players, all drawn from a nucleus of six first division clubs. The main problem is that the 14-team first division had the lowest European goals-per-match scoring rate of 1.02 last season.

There has been a major (!) improvement this season to 1.90 goals per game. But even the league's joint top scorers — Marko of Dinamo, Bajaziti of Besa and Koci of Naftëitari — have claimed only nine goals each.

That's a far cry from the days of the 1940s when, following Italy's military annexation of Albania, several leading Italian clubs took advantage by swooping on leading local players to pep up their attack. The most successful was Riza Lustha with Juventus.

Born in a village called Mitrovica on February 22, 1916, Lustha was signed in the summer of 1940. In his first season he scored 10 goals in 26 games, but Juve could finish only fifth. Lustha had been a success, though, so he was still there next season to finish as the club's top scorer, with 15 goals in 26 games again.

Juventus finished third this time, albeit seven points behind champions and neighbours Torino. And for Lustha, that was that. The Italian league fell victim to the war and Lustha's Italian career was at an end.

Just after the war Internazionale lined up the Albanian refugee centre-forward Nicolas Simatoc, but he failed to make the grade . . . and Albania's last footballing export faded into anonymity.

The successors of Lustha and Simatoc today are still looking for some credibility, however. This is the national squad as announced by Rreli before the European championship visit to Northern Ireland:

Musta (Partizani, aged 24/6 caps), Luarasi (Dinamo, 2 caps), Cumaki (Luftëtari, 0 caps) — P. Ruci (Flamurtari, 23/4), Hametaj (Partizani, 22/4), Targaj (Dinamo, 26/13), Hysi (Partizani, 6 caps), Eksarko (Partizani, 1 cap), Bimo (Nendori, 22/2) — Ballgjini (Lokomotiva, 25/9), Vukatana (Vllaznia, 23/4), Lame (Partizani, 6 caps), Omuri (Nendori, 3 caps), Minga (Flamurtari, 24/7), Mema (Nendori, 1 cap), Ragami (Vllaznia, 23/6 — Demollari (Dinamo, 1 cap), Muca (Nendori, 3 caps), Xhaho (Flamurtari, 0 caps). Coaches: S. Rreli and M. Zhega.

In the league, meanwhile, little stirs. Only four clubs have won the league title since the war (Dinamo Tirana 15 times, Partizani 12, Nendori six and Vllaznia four). At the moment it's Partizani who are in the driving seat. They moved to the top thanks to a 1-0 win over Tomori (coincidentally, Tomori was also the name of the Partizani goalscorer in the 87th minute!). At the same time previous leaders Vllaznia Shkoder were going down 2-0 away to Shënderbeu — the rot starting with an own goal from centre-back Jera.

Continued from page 35

ALBANIA line-up before their European championship tie in Belfast. Back row: Musta, Targaj, Vukatana, Minga, Hametaj, Lame. Front: Ruci, Demollari, Muca, Omuri, Eksarko.

World Soccer Diary compiled by Keir Radnedge

PAOLO CASARIN, Italy's World Cup referee in Spain a year ago, was in March suspended until October for a newspaper interview which, in the disciplinary authorities opinion, brought the game into disrepute.

Cesarin, a 43-year-old industrial programmer from Milan, had alleged that Italian football was riddled with "soft" corruption; that the big clubs made arrangements with referees and with each other concerning the outcome of major matches; that the club presidents were frequently to blame; and that many of the foreign imports into *calcio* were there only for the money and made it unnecessarily obvious.

In many other countries Casarin's remarks would have sparked an official inquiry. Not Italy. After the agonies of the 1980 betting-and-bribes scandal many officials believe, in an ostrich-like way, that all corruption has been banished.

The subject must not even be raised.

Thus Casarin, who collected a six-month suspension only two years ago after a row with Juventus, was suspended from duty in January and, in March, hit with a nine-month ban (starting from the original suspension).

Since then Italian football has been brought face-to-face with reality in the form of the Genoa-Inter scandal (see page 18). On top of that, another former top referee, Ricardo Lattanzi, has been revealed as heavily involved in business deals with the presidents of both Ascoli and Udinese.

Lattanzi has had to resign as vice-president of the Italian referees' association.

Casarin was right. Now it's up to the Italian authorities to do the right thing and reinstate him: immediately.

★ ★ ★

VALENCIA saved themselves from relegation in Spain by the skin of their teeth but they'll struggle again next season unless they can sort themselves out quickly.

Jose Ramos Costa, who quit as president midway through the season, now says he intends to stand in the forthcoming elections!

No wonder Miljan Miljanic didn't last (he could be bound for FC Zurich) and that Kurt Welzl may well go home to Innsbruck. Valencia isn't the place to be with at the moment.

★ ★ ★

DIRECTORS of FK Austria put the cat among the pigeons when they invited Ferenc Puskas as their guest to Vienna for the first leg of the Cup-winners' Cup semi-final against Real Madrid.

Generous gesture or merely a cover-up?

For it was reported after the game that Austria (the club, that is) want the portly one-time Hungarian captain as their coach next season.

Right in the middle of a European semi-final is hardly the right time for such stories to be floating around and so FK Austria's board, appalled (whether at publication of the story or the truth of it is not yet clear!) immediately offered current coach Wenzel Halama a new contract.

"Halama to stay," trumpeted the headlines. Not for long. The Czech coach who has earned such an impressive reputation among the Austrians, responded with a flat rejection.

Perhaps that was what the board had hoped for. Halama's methods haven't pleased all the players. He has had disciplinary rows with midfielder Felix Gasselich and thinks FKA would be far better-off without both Gasselich and fellow international Ernst Baumeister.

★ ★ ★

WHEN the European Cup was first launched the draw was, for many years, made in two sections, so as to keep apart teams from nations who lacked political relations.

Thus, while Britain refused to acknowledge the existence of East Germany, teams from the GDR were — most times — placed elsewhere.

Happily the European competitions could be said to have contributed to a lowering of political barriers. The first example came in the winter of 1955, in the very first Champions' Cup event, when Partizan Belgrade were drawn against Real Madrid.

Franco's Spain had nothing to do with members of the Eastern block but the Partizan party, with the connivance of the Spanish authorities, were "smuggled" into Madrid. That difficulties remained became clear a few years later when Spain pulled out of the fledgling European Nations' Championship rather than play the Soviet Union.

Time and sporting/political realities have healed many of those rifts. In 1964 the Soviets actually played in Spain — and lost to their hosts in the final — in the European Nations' event.

Still there are the occasional odd incidents. The Albanians cause most problems, of course, regularly pulling their teams out rather than face Soviet opposition, and also being stubbornly awkward regarding visas for visiting teams, officials and media.

The latest incident to sour generally peaceful waters however came surprisingly after Anderlecht were drawn against Bohemians in the UEFA Cup semi-finals. The Czechoslovak authorities refused visa applications from nine Belgian journalists, allowing only two.

No reason was given. One hopes UEFA are still pursuing the matter.

★ ★ ★

BRUNO GIORDANO is one of the most controversial of Italian players. A dangerous centre-forward, he has lately returned to action after serving a suspension for his role in the betting-and-bribes scandal of 1980.

A string of top clubs — including Juventus — hope to prise him away from Lazio this summer. But meanwhile Giordano's name has hit the headlines for the wrong reasons again.

Not his fault this time, but that of his 21-year-old sister, Silvia. With a friend, using a realistic-looking toy pistol, they held up and stole money and jewellery from five girls aged between 15 and 19 in the Trastevere suburb.

Silvia now risks a sentence of between three and ten years in jail.

She could hardly have needed the money; not when her brother is rated as worth £4 million on the transfer market!

★ ★ ★

CONGRATULATIONS all round to Liverpool. To the club on winning the Football League championship for a record 14th time and on winning the Milk/League Cup for a record third successive year.

Congratulations also to Bob Paisley on his

Corru

sees Ca

retirement as the most successful of all Engli club managers, and finally to Kenny Dalglish . voted Footballer of the Year by both his fello players and by the Football Writers' Associatio

★ ★ ★

WHILE on the subject of Liverpool, appears they have struck a hitch over t signing of Michael Laudrup. Liverpo wanted the Danish wonderboy to sign three or, preferably, four-year contra Father Finn Laudrup insisted on only tw years and, since he's in no hurry, h advised Michael to spend another year wi Brondby.

One well-known name on the move els where is Josef Venglos. The Slovak version Ron Greenwood has taken over at Sporti Lisbon. Venglos had been "resting" since qu ting his job as manager of Czechoslovakia af the World Cup.

An intelligent man and experienced a inventive coach, Venglos was perhaps a lit short of the personal dynamism needed motivate an ageing, lacklustre squad.

He'll certainly find life lively in Lisbon whe he succeeds Antonio Oliveira, who continues a player with the club. Oliveira's only re mistake was in flouting tradition, for Portugue football lacks the history of player-manage which has been so long established, for exa ple, in Britain.

★ ★ ★

DIEGO MARADONA was given a raptuo welcome when he stepped out in the Bo Juniors stadium, as a guest of his old clu when he flew home to Buenos Aires rece ly.

But the previous day had been an agonisi one, for Maradona's new car — with t nephews and a niece inside — was stolen fr outside his parents' home.

Police feared a ransom demand and Marac na's family were distraught — understandabl any circumstances, let alone in Argentina whe the disappearances of men, women and c dren has such fearful undertones.

Happily, the children turned up safely seve hours later. The car hasn't been seen since.

★ ★ ★

DON'T expect to see the name of Ivan Petrov any more Bulgarian international squads. Pi ed up for shoplifting – a couple of pairs trousers – on the eve of a European cha pionship tie with Wales in April, he was se home in disgrace: after first collecting a £50 fi from magistrates.

World Soccer Diary compiled by Keir [illegible]dge

[illegible]tion allegation [illegible]sarin banned

HUGO Orlando Gatti, veteran goalkeeper of Boca Juniors, has been named Argentina's Footballer of the Year. That success followed another a few weeks earlier when Gatti played his 600th first division game — against Platense.

Now he has his eyes fixed firmly on all the all-time record of 623 games, set by Roberto Telch.

"Then there can be no doubt," says Gatti, "that I am The Greatest of All Times."

Muhammad Gatti!

★ ★ ★

REMEMBER how the Italians used the assistance of the drug aid carnitina on their way to victory in the World Cup last year? Someone else has caught on — no less than Real Madrid.

They've experimented with the preparation on the players of their affiliated second division team, Castilla. And Castilla, who had struggled for the first half of the season, have gone shooting up the table.

Who gets the credit now — coach Amancio, or the local chemist?

★ ★ ★

Obituary — DOMINGO BOSCO. One of the reasons for the confusion recently at Flamengo, Brazil's former world club champions, was the death of their football supervisor. A familiar roly-poly figure in international football with his ever-present clipboard tucked under his arm, Bosco's shrewd diplomacy smoothed over many potential problems between players and coaches, coaches and directors.

BILL FINDLER. Died at Burnaby, British Columbia, aged 77, after a life dedicated to football in Canada. Findler played outside right for the Westminster Royals, Canada's dominant club, in the early 1930s and was later a manager, league secretary and finally president of the Pacific Coast Soccer League.

JOSE IRARAGORRI. It's poignant that one of the greatest of Basque footballers didn't live quite long enough to see Athletic Bilbao — "his" club — regain the Spanish league. Four days before the title-winning victory in Las Palmas, he died at the age of 71. Iraragorri joined Bilbao in 1928 and turned professional — earning £5 a month! — a year later. An inside right he was a member of Bilbao's league-and-cup double team in 1931, helped them win the cup again in 1933 and the league in 1934 and 1936. He made his Spain debut as a substitute for Luis Regueiro against Italy in 1931 and totalled seven internationals, including appearances in the 1934 World Cup finals. When the Spanish civil war began Iraragorri played abroad successively in Mexico, Cuba and Chile before joining San Lorenzo of Argentina. He returned to Bilbao in 1946 and retired in 1949, aged 37. As a coach he guided Bilbao to the cup in 1950 and later helped save Valladolid and then Celta de Vigo from relegation.

BERNARD VUKAS. One of Yugoslavia's greatest forwards, who has died aged 55. Vukas could play inside or centre-forward and won 59 caps in the late 1940s and 1950s. His career included successful spells with Concordija Zagreb, Amatorzy Zagreb, Hajduk Split and Bologna in Italy. He inspired Hajduk to the league title in 1950, 1952 and 1955 and returned there from Italy to end his playing career in 1962. He played for the Rest of the World in the 4-4 draw against England at Wembley in 1953, and for Europe against Great Britain in 1955 — when he scored a hat-trick in the last 13 minutes to win the game 4-1.

AGAINST Ascoli, Roberto Bettega made Italian football history for Juventus — scoring the club's 3,000th goal in league football. Juve are the all-time leaders, followed by Inter (2,932), Milan (2,759) and Torino (2,394).

But while Bettega certainly got No 3,000, Italian statisticians are divided over goal No 1,000. Was the scorer present club president Giampiero Boniperti (against Sampdoria in 1947), or was it the English forward John William Jordan?

This particular Jordan played the 1948-49 season for Juventus in between brief spells with Tottenham and Birmingham. Later he went to Sheffield Wednesday — to total only 59 English League games, scoring 15 goals.

With Juventus he scored five goals in 20 games.

There is no argument, however, about one curiosity: Juve's first league goal was an own goal, conceded by Zoccola of Napoli on October 6, 1929!

★ ★ ★

ADIDAS GOLDEN BOOT — Gomes (Porto) 28. Houtman (Feyenoord) 27. Rush (Liverpool) and Anastopoulos (Olympiakos) 24 each. Blissett (Watford) and Krimau (Metz) 23 each. Nicholas (Celtic) 22.

KURT WELZL ... turning his back on Valencia?

JUNE DIARY. — **June 1** — EC: Finland-Sov. Union, Denmark-Hungary ... **June 2** — Uruguay-Paraguay (prov) ... **June 3** — World Youth Cup starts (Mexico). Spanish Cup Final ... **June 5** — EC: Iceland-Malta ... **June 7** — W. Germany-Yugoslavia (Luxembourg FA 75th anniversary game). E21: Albania-Austria ... **June 8** — EC: Albania-Austria. Friendly: Portugal-Brazil. Olym. qual: Yugoslavia-Italy, W. Germany-Israel ... **June 9** — EC: Sweden-Rumania ... **June 11** — W. German Cup Final: 1st FC Köln v Fortuna Köln ... **June 12** — Wales-Brazil, Australia-England (Sydney), Canada-Scotland (Vancouver) ... **June 15** — Olym qual: Finland-Norway. Friendly: Australia-England (Brisbane) ... **June 16** — Canada-Scotland (Montreal) ... **June 17** — Switzerland-Brazil (Basel) ... **June 18** — Uruguay-Peru ... **June 19** — World Youth Final (Mexico City). Frndly: Australia-England (Melbourne), Canada-Scotland (Toronto) ... **June 21** — Veterans' game: Sweden-Brazil ... **June 22** — Frndly: Sweden-Brazil. Olym qual: Denmark-Finland ... **June 23** — Argentina-Chile ... **June 29** — Olym qual: Norway-Poland.

Schuster raise

by Arthur Rotmil

THE national team returned from the expedition to Turkey and Austria with three valuable points, having won 3-0 in Izmir and drawn 0-0 in Vienna. The West Germans have thus completed their away programme in this group, still headed by the Austrians.

But having gained five points from four games the Germans can look forward with confidence to playing Austria (October 5), Turkey (October 26), Northern Ireland (November 16) and Albania (November 20) all at home.

Before the departure for the aforementioned double bill, there was the usual hassle trying to get the release of their three foreign "mercenaries", Schuster, Stielike and Müller.

In fact Inter-Milan freed Hansi Müller only after threats of legal action. The Italians wanted Müller to play in the vital league match against AS Roma, but the West German Football Federation (DFB) who already have no end of trouble getting the release of Schuster and Stielike from their Spanish clubs, despite contractual clauses, wanted to make an example of Inter, who were facing a fine of £33,000 in case of non-compliance.

Because Spain were also involved in a European Championship qualifier, there was no problem this time with the availability of players, but in any case Stielike has had to cry off with a thigh strain. The Real Madrid star has become injury prone lately and he missed the second leg semi-final in the Cup-winners' Cup against FK Austria.

The selection of the controversial Schuster caused raised eyebrows, moreover as in a spot poll conducted among the national squad, the majority voted against the inclusion of the capricious schemer. But manager Jupp Derwall, supported by the DFB president Hermann Neuberger was determined to give his wayward star another chance.

He was duly rewarded, for in Turkey the team gave its most convincing performance of the season. And it was precisely the form of the recently criticised mercenaries which caught the eye. Schuster and Müller complemented each other splendidly, both praised one another and while Schuster thought that the team in this formation was "super", Müller was delighted with Schuster's co-operation and contribution to a remarkably strong midfield.

Before a capacity crowd of 73,000 the Germans dictated the game from start to finish. Rummenigge, playing his 65th international, scored twice (once from a penalty) and increased his tally in internationals to 35 goals; club mate Dremmler hit the third in the easy win.

What delighted German observers most was, that apart from the fighting qualities, the team at last returned to technical skills and showed flair. The Cologne midfielder Stefan Engels proved a perfect foil for Müller and Schuster.

The experiment of playing with three strikers, Littbarski, Völler and Rummenigge was successful, but it remains to be seen if they can reproduce this form against stronger opposition.

The Germans drew another full house of 60,000 in Vienna, but opinions were sharply divided over the merits of their 0-0 draw with Austria, four days later.

Some pundits were full of praise for the side who gained a valuable away point against the biggest rivals in this group. Others were disappointed in the strikers who failed to score.

The Germans could have won, but a headed goal by Rummenigge was mysteriously disallowed by the Scottish referee McGinlay for alleged offside. Rummenigge claimed that even the Austrian players told him it was a good goal, for he came from behind the defenders when the ball was played to him by Littbarski.

Derwall spoke of a "marvellous match", president Neuberger described it as a "great performance", Rummenigge thought the game was "fantastic", while the record capped Franz Beckenbauer praised the Austrians more than his own countrymen.

The Germans are hoping for better things internationally in the near future. Last year their teams reached four major finals and lost them all: The World Cup, European Championship for Under-21s, the European Champions Cup (Bayern Munich) and the UEFA Cup (Hamburger SV).

Now Hamburg were the country's sole remaining representative in Europe. Having beaten Spanish champions Real Sociedad (San Sebastian) they met Juventus in the final in Athens.

This was Hamburg's fifth European final — they won the Cup Winners' Cup (1977), but lost the others; Cup Winners' Cup (1968), Champions Cup (1980) and UEFA Cup (1982). The result of their clash with Juventus will be found elsewhere in this issue.

Hamburg are still in the running for the Bundesliga championship. In a three-cornered fight they face their old rivals Bayern Munich, but also old foes from the neighbouring north, the surprise team of the season, Werder Bremen.

Strangely, in the middle of the run-in for the "double" of domestic and European glory the club was involved in protracted negotiations with players over extension of contracts.

This is a peculiarity of the German system which is not to be recommended to other countries. Instead of concentrating on their fight for titles, or against relegation, the

FRENCH NEW YOUN

NOTE, please, that there were a couple of brand new names among the French goalscorers in that spanking home win over Yugoslavia; further proof, if it were needed, that Michel Hidalgo is not afraid to bring in new young talent, and that the new young talent is well worth bringing in.

Those two interesting new goal scorers were Yvon Le Roux of Brest, and the coloured Touré, a star of the Nantes team which has been burning up the League, and gave short shrift to Bordeaux, whom they thrashed 4-0 in their home Second Leg, in the French Cup.

That Brest should produce a full French international is itself something which would have been quite inconceivable only a few years ago. Indeed, the time is not so remote when the Englishman Nigel Page-Jones, best footballer in Brest's second division side, was lamenting the fact that he would never play in First Division football, because Brest had no ambition to leave the economic comfort of Division II, while his wife, a local girl, had still less ambition to leave Brest.

Well, the 23-year-old Yvon Le Roux comes from a little village only a few miles from Brest, where his family deal in wholesale vegetables, with success. He showed early as a promising player, and came to the attention of Brest when he played well in a curtain-raiser before their local derby against Rennes. He was a midfielder then, as indeed he is now, but they turned him into a centre-back and before long launched him in the League team.

Le Roux admits that playing centre-back, where his first duty is to eliminate the opposing centre-forward, there are times when his legs begin to itch. Then upfield he charges, and it is at those, unexpected, moments, as he says, that he is most likely to score or to create goals. Indeed, even before he had been switched this season to the midfield, he had got half a dozen goals from centre-back.

At first, he admits, he found the adaptation to midfield a very difficult one. He was, ironically enough, afraid that the switch might harm his chances of gaining a French cap, but as we have seen, his fears could scarcely have had less basis. Even though, by a further irony, it was as a stopper that Hidalgo initially wanted him.

In Paris, where Osvaldo Ardiles failed so signally to settle down, Safet Susic, the Yugoslav international left winger, has done it with style. He had his tangled troubles with Italian clubs, blithely signing one contract for Internazionale and another for Torino; the Italians slapped a year's suspension on him.

But Roma, he says, still came after him, and he was also approached by Liverpool and Hamburg. But he wanted more money than Hamburg were prepared to pay, so Paris Saint Germain got him; after notable delays, following the World Cup and a curiously obstructive attitude manifested by the Yuguslav Federation. Arsenal and Petrovic know something about all that.

Susic is linked to Paris till the end of season 1983/4. In the meantime the club have received exceedingly tempting offers to sell him; but Susic says that Paris is where he wants to play. What a happy contrast with those dark days when Racing Club de Paris went to the wall, and there was no major professional football in Paris at all!

s eyebrows!

players are involved in crucial talks about their immediate future and this must have some adverse effect on their performances.

In Hamburg the defenders Bernd Wehmeyer and Jürgen Groh have now signed new contracts, but the strikers Horst Hrubesch and the Dane Lars Bastrup are leaving the club. Bastrup, who scored a hat-trick in Hamburg's 3-0 win over Russian champions Dynamo Kiev, is unhappy because he cannot be certain of a first team place.

The same problem is worrying the international Jürgen Milewski, who is asking for more money. Milewski is earning about £60,000 a year basic, but apparently wants another £25,000, because he is a full international and considers himself underpaid by comparison with others.

Hrubesch, the centre-forward who played 21 times in the national side, and was 32 on April 17, has finally signed a two-year contract with Standard Liege. The Belgians paid Hamburg about £200,000 for the striker who will earn some £75,000 a year.

Rumours that Hamburg have joined a queue of clubs interested in the new Scottish scoring sensation Charlie Nicholas have been denied by the management.

The 21-year-old prodigy who, as I write, had scored this season in all competitions, 46 goals for Celtic and celebrated his international debut with a marvellous goal in the 2-2 draw with Switzerland, would probably cost too much.

And Hamburg already have a ready made replacement for Hrubesch. As I reported last month, Dieter Schatzschneider the lethal striker (26 goals in the Second Division so far), is joining Hamburg in the summer. Hamburg are, in the words of general manager Günter Netzer, "not planning any more purchases".

Personal problems have also plagued Bayern Munich, where several players were due to renew their contracts. Dieter Hoeness, brother of business manager Uli, has signed for another year on a "performance basis".

That means his salary depends on the number of matches he plays in the first team. Hoeness has had offers from abroad, including one from French First Division club Monaco. Winger Del Haye and defender Beirlorzer have also extended their agreements.

Utility man Pflügler is still discussing his future; Güttler has been loaned out to 1 FC Nürnberg for £25,000; veteran goalkeeper Müller (36) is going to the North American club Calgary Mustangs for just £10,000; defender Horsmann is waiting for a lucrative offer from Switzerland.

The season's biggest flop, midfielder Norbert Nachtweih, is returning to Eintracht Frankfurt but only for one season. His old club will pay Bayern a loan fee of £50,000 and take over his wages of £60,000 pa.

Bayern have had more injuries this term than in any other season. After goalkeeper Pfaff and midfielder Dürnberger, the 'libero' Augenthaler was out for a month with torn ligaments.

Captain Paul Breitner's competitive career was also ended prematurely. The bad tackle by Hamburg's Rolff on March 6, caused not only torn knee ligaments but also chipped bones in his ankle and a hairline fracture of the shin-bone.

He will just about make it for his farewell and testimonial on May 31 against a World XI in Munich's Olympic stadium. The club has however completed the signing of his successor the Danish international midfielder Sören Lerby from Ajax. After obtaining a bank credit, the Bavarians were able to pay the reported fee of £450,000. Lerby is on a three-year contract, with an option for another year.

The Football Federation has abandoned plans to introduce the revolutionary "sin-bin" rule next season. After a four-year trial period in amateur football the DFB was ready to experiment with players being sent off for a fixed ten-minute period. But there were objections from the world's governing body FIFA, who are anxious to retain a uniform set of rules throughout the world. The Germans also felt that this unique rule would have isolated them from the rest of Europe and possibly handicapped their players and referees in international competitions.

The new team manager of 1 FC Kaiserslautern is Dietrich Weise who is leaving the DFB where he coached the national youth team. Weise, who succeeds Rudi Kröner, was once before Kaiserslautern's team chief in the early 1970s.

The new team boss of Borussia Dortmund is Uli Maslo (44), who replaces Karl-Heinz Feldkamp on July 1. Maslo who was fired by Eintracht Brunswick, has signed a one-year contract at Dortmund. Maslo was the seventh team manager who has lost his job with a First Bundesliga club, this season.

BERND SCHUSTER . . . controversial return for West Germany.

BRING IN G TALENT

from Andre Duclos

Susic says that he wasn't surprised that Ardiles left Paris; what did surprise him was that the club, when it already had such players as Lemoult and Fernandez, should have signed the Argentine in the first place. Any suggestion that he is the man who now runs the team he swiftly rejects; he has never, he says, been a maker of the play. But he never changes his style, no matter where he may happen to be playing. He had a poor spell he admits around the time when Paris S-G put up such a feeble show at Waterscheid in the Cup-Winners' Cup, but he was still surprised when Georges Peyroche whipped him off the field.

It had never happened to him in his nine years at Sarajevo, he says, and he still believes that the soon-to-depart Paris S-G coach was wrong; as long as he stays on the field, says Susic, he is always capable of scoring a goal, no matter what form he may happen to be in.

José Touré now adds his name to the impressive roll of midfield players on whom France can call; further proof that Michel Platini, despite the marvellous form into which he has run with Juventus, is not wholly indispensable. But then did we not see as much during the last World Cup, when Platini dropped out for a time and Giresse so impressively took over his mantle?

Saint Etienne, with a new board of directors and, as we know, a new municipal administration to deal with now that good old Communist Mayor Sweetblood has gone, are busily making harsh economies. Their administrative side is being sharply cut down, and Larios, now in Spain, is by no means the only player to be on his way.

The international goalkeeper Castaneda will be leaving at the end of the season; and so will none other than international full-back Patrick Battiston, so brutally felled by the appalling Schumacher in Seville during the notorious semi-final of the World Cup, last summer. Other famous players now on the transfer list are the Dutch international Johnny Rep, who played in the 1974 World Cup Final, and scored the winning goal in the European Cup Final the year before, international full-back or midfielder Gérard Janvion, another 1982 World Cup man, Bernars Genghini, who scored that marvellous free-kick goal versus Austria in Madrid last summer and joined Saint Etienne only after the World Cup, and another international midfielder in the clever Moizan. Talk about cutting one's coat according to one's cloth!

The Danish cap Fleming Christiansen, who has also been told to get on his bicycle, is not a bit pleased, and who can reasonably blame him? He points out that he still has a couple of years of his contract with the Greens to run and that he has no desire at all to leave. If he does, his agent is threatening to sue the club for the bagatelle of 700,000 francs.

It's been reasonably suggested that this is hardly the way to inspire the team to fight its way clear from relegation. But even if it does, poor Saint Etienne will be left with only the shell of a side, next season.

Soviet failure causes concern

by Terry Bushell

CONCERN at the state of football in the Soviet Union is likely to lead to a crackdown on discipline in the League season just begun.

The concern follows one of the most disappointing seasons Soviet fans have ever experienced. Euphoria at the national team reaching the World Cup finals for the first time in 12 years was drowned in disgust at the side's poor display.

This failure, and the abject showing of all the Soviet sides in European club competition, was followed by revelations in the press of corruption and incompetence at the highest level.

The background to the national side's unept performance in Spain has gradually leaked out. It seems that national team manager Konstantin Beskov, scared of the prevalence of Kiev and Tbilisi players in the side, suggested to the football authorities that the manager of those sides, Valery Lobanovsky and Nodar Akhalkatsi, be appointed to help him in Spain. Then he changed his mind: but it was too late. So three managers with vastly different ideas of how football should be played had joint control of the national side.

Akhalkatsi, recognising that such an arrangement was impossible, said little in Spain and did not interfere, sticking to a role of observer. Lobanivsky however assumed an active role in the running of the team. He in fact changed the previously established pattern of playing. This resulted of course in a thoroughly pathetic picture, eclectic and lacking any general idea.

The finishing touches were provided by one V.L. Sych, deputy chairman of the Soviet Sports Committee, who headed the delegation in Spain. Apparently he virtually directed the game in the memorable decisive match against Poland, the match the Soviet Union needed to win but did not and so were eliminated.

As one commentator wrote sarcastically: "He (Sych) must have decided to resolve with one master stroke all the problems in football that he had failed to resolve over many years."

Inevitably, Beskov was sacked. He said he resigned of his own accord in order to concentrate on managing his club, Spartak, but there seems little doubt that a high-level decision was taken to replace him with Lobanovsky.

This also has caused much stinging comment in the Soviet press. "If you don't change managers after a failure the blame will fall on those who appointed him," wrote one commentator. "The manager's incompetence (if this is really the case) should be paid for by those who showed incompetence in appointing him in the first place."

Last September, deputy chief of the Communist Party propaganda department Marat Gramov made a key speech on the state of Soviet football. Since then, he has taken over as head of the powerful Sports Committee in a move that could herald a wind of change in Soviet football. His predecessor, meanwhile, Sergei Pavlov, who impressed foreign correspondents with his handling of delicate press conferences during the 1980 Moscow Olympics, has been demoted to a post in Outer Mongolia!

(The reasons for this harsh move however are believed to have nothing to do with football, nor indeed with sport at all).

Gramov has already given the go-ahead for new regulations that place greater restrictions on players' movements between clubs.

He, and the journalists who have written articles analysing problems and suggesting reforms, are following the new line on corruption that prevails throughout Soviet society in general following the appointment of President Yuri Andropov.

One paper revealed that a third division player was expelled from the League for trying to influence the outcome of a match by collecting money from his team-mates and offering it as a bribe to the opposition. Other reports have appeared of corruption among players and managers and bias among referees, the most startling being the expulsion from the League of Torpedo Vladimir for boosting the wage packets of their star players by giving them fictitious jobs with a local factory.

Football is supposed to be strictly amateur, with players having full-time jobs outside the game, although no one expects the top players, who compete against the world's top professionals, to do anything but train. Commentators privately admit that players need more financial incentive. Some have even hinted at some sort of open professionalism.

I do not know if it is because of this atmosphere, which cannot be very pleasant, but all the most famous clubs in the Supreme League have begun the season disastrously. After five games Moscow Dynamo, Tbilisi, Spartak and Kiev were all in the bottom half of the table, with the most famous of all, Kiev, actually fourth from bottom.

Shock results followed one another in quick succession, the latest being Kiev and Tbilisi losing at home to Moscow Torpedo and Shakhtyor Donetsk respectively.

It looks like being an interesting season. Even champions Minsk are only seventh.

Moscow Torpedo head the table, dropping only one point in the first five games. They are followed by Ararat Yerevan, a point behind, with Shakhtyor third a point behind them.

SWISS IN LAU

SWITZERLAND'S marvellous run ended when they lost 1-0 to the Soviet Union in Lausanne. It was the national team's first home defeat under team manager Paul Wolfisberg after eight games and only their fourth altogether in 20 matches.

But at least they fell to a redoubtable opponent — the Russians had only lost once (against Brazil in the World Cup) in the last 30 matches, going back to 1979! And they made a strong impression in this match. Four times before the Swiss played the Russians and could not win; this time it was no different. There are still five nations whom the Swiss have never conquered, after playing against them more than once: Spain, Brazil, East Germany, Argentina and Russia.

Swiss papers described the Soviets as their strongest opposition for two years. They were fast, athletic, mobile, skilful on the ball, strong in the tackle, unorthodox and difficult to play. The veteran Oleg Blokhin scored the decisive goal for the Russians who confirmed their strength a couple of weeks later with a crushing 5-0 win over Portugal in their European Championship group. On this form they should qualify for the finals in France next year.

The Swiss fielded their usual team, except that striker Zwicker was preferred to Elsener. It was Switzerland's last test before their European tie v. East Germany, but their hopes were already slender, following Belgium's victory over the Germans which has practically settled the issue in this group, which also includes Scotland, now already eliminated.

Austria

THE AUSTRIAN national side could only draw 0-0 with their biggest rivals West Germany in their European Championship qualifying group, but they are still in the driving seat as this was their only point dropped so far in four matches.

A crowd of 60,000 in the Prater stadium in Vienna saw a hard game dominated by defences, in which the two goalkeepers Schumacher (West Germany) and Koncilia (Austria) were outstanding. The Austrians hoped for a win, but perhaps too much was expected of Hans Krankl, who returned to the side for the first time since the World Cup. The Rapid striker, who with 19 goals was leading the field in the First Division, is amazingly the only survivor of ten years ago. Krankl figured in the 0-4 defeat by West Germany in Hannover in 1973. He didn't want to play in the national side after the World Cup because of persistent criticism, but after his transfer from Barcelona was finally settled, he decided to give it another try in national colours.

LOSE SANNE

On the domestic front the FC Zurich sprang a surprise when they engaged the controversial Austrian Max Merkel as team manager. Merkel, now 65, took over from the resigned Jeandupeux, but only till the end of the season. He is a trained machinist and ended his playing career with Rapid Vienna in 1954. Merkel played once in the national side and once for the so-called "Great Germany", following the annexation of his country by the Germans in 1938. As manager he was in charge of Den Haag, the Dutch national team, Rapid, Borussia Dortmund, 1860 Munich, 1 FC Nürnberg, Seville, Schalke and others . . .

Merkel was also Technical Director of the Austrian Football Federation (ÖFB) and was once feared as a strict disciplinarian. His famous quips and repartees could fill volumes. He took Borussia Dortmund to the German championship final in 1961, 1860 Munich to the championship of the regional League South in 1963, cup triumph in 1964, final of the Cup Winners Cup in 1965 and Bundesliga championship in 1966. He won the championship also with Nürnberg in 1968 and the Spanish title with Atletico Madrid in 1973.

Another manager forced to leave may be the Yugoslav Milan Nikolic (Lucerne) who hasn't got the necessary "Trainer's Licence". Altogether nine team managers have left league clubs this season, most of them from the Second Division.

ERNST BAUMEISTER . . .
Austria Vienna midfielder.

by Arthur Rotmil

drop a point

The Austrian Football Federation reported a clear profit of £500,000 from the World Cup in which they reached the second final round. This includes income from advertising and promotions, and is £200,000 more than was expected. Most of the money will be passed on to the clubs in the First Division who are hard up.

It is abundantly clear that the increase from ten to sixteen clubs in the upper sphere has not improved crowd figures. Whilst the smaller division produced gates of 4,615 per match (in the best year it recorded 5,344) the new enlarged league produced in the first half of the season only 3,591 on average. The reasons are simply that club football is generally poor and the engagement of second class foreigners has contributed to the disenchantment with the game. The performance of the national side in Spain were hardly calculated to bring back the fans to club soccer.

The outstanding team are Rapid, who were still unbeaten after 21 league games, in fact they had only lost once in 53 matches (against Widzew Lodz in the European Cup). The record champions are also clear favourites to win the cup having beaten Wacker Innsbruck in the first leg of the final by 3-0. Curiously enough, Rapid's manager the Yugoslav Otto Baric, won the league title with Innsbruck in 1971, but never triumphed in the cup.

This could be Rapid's first "double" after 15 years. A five-point lead in the championship race should be sufficient, even though the ÖFB ordered them to replay the game against nearest challengers FK Austria, because they fielded a player who was apparently still under suspension following a sending off in an 'under-21 team' game. Yet, the ÖFB office had sent Rapid a premature release note and claimed it was "an administrative oversight"!

Rapid won the original game 1-0, but should they lose the replay, it would cut their lead over Austria to three points. FK meanwhile who delighted the country with their triumph over Barcelona in the Cup Winners Cup, failed in the semi-final against Real Madrid. After a creditable 2-2 draw in Vienna, the "violets" lost in Madrid 3-1.

World Soccer Newsdesk

Karoulias of Greece tackles (?) Steve Coppell!

Olympiakos in line for fourth title

From Lou Economopoulos in Athens

OLYMPIAKOS have long been a common sight on top of the Greek first division and this season has been no exception.

The Piraeus club are on the way to their fourth consecutive championship, five points ahead of second-place Aris of Salonica.

A second-half goal by **Nikos Anastopoulos,** who leads the scorers' charts with 24 goals, enabled Olympiakos to draw 1-1 away to Giannena. That gave the league leaders 41 points but manager Kazimierz Gorski said: "I told the players they should not count the points, but play good soccer and the victories will come."

Aris moved into second place with 36 points after a 1-1 tie at Apollon, virtually assuring themselves of a spot in the UEFA Cup, the target they set at the start of the campaign.

Larisa continue to provide surprises, moving into a tie for third place with troubled AEK with 35 points. Larisa's impressive 2-0 victory over last-placed Rhodes boosted the club's chances of nailing down the other UEFA Cup spot.

"There is no secret about our success," said Larisa manager **Jacek Gmoch** of Poland, who has an offer to coach **Panathinaikos** next season. "Our success is based on hard work and the team follow instructions to the letter. We don't build on sand."

Despite a 3-0 defeat of **Kastoria,** Panathinaikos are going through one of their worst seasons. The Athens club have only 29 points and are a poor sixth position.

Kostas Tsakos has taken over as manager for the rest of the season after the resignation of **Andreas Papaemmanuel,** following a 4-0 beating by Olympiakos in the Greek cup. Panathinaikos' national team goalkeeper **Vasilis Constantinou** also retired after the match ending a brilliant 20-year career. There is talk that Italo-Argentine **Bruno Pesaola** would be asked to manage the team next year.

Sports Minister **Kimon Koulouris** ordered ticket prices for all first division clashes to be increased by 25p until the sum of £960,000 has been raised. That sum will then be turned over to families of the 21 victims of the stampede at Karaiskakis Stadium on February 8, 1981 after the Olympiakos-AEK match.

BELGIUM — FROM PHILIP SMITH

ONE OF the quaint attractions of the **Belgian** soccer scene is the end-of-term announcement concerning the composition of next season's line-ups. First off the mark this year were **Standard Liege,** who fully one month before the end of the present season tied up the loose ends that will make Hamburg centre-forward **Horst Hrubesch** one of their number come July.

Despite having spent five success-ridden years in Hamburg, Hrubesch and his family never really settled in northern Germany, and with a child approaching school age a parental decision was made to return to their original home town of Hamm.

The thought of playing for a struggling Ruhr team didn't exactly fire enthusiasm into the big German. But Standard Liege fitted the bill both as a major European side and also one situated just over 100 miles from Hamm. Negotiations between club and player opened in January and after three months bargaining the Belgians finally got their target to sign a two-year contract.

Several Standard men reached the end of their contracts this summer — **Gerets, Haan, Wendt, Preud'homme, Vandersmissen, Poel, Engelbert, Delangre** and **Sciascia** and it looks certain that at least the first named will be on the move Gerets to Milan.

Standard's chief administrator Jean-Marie Defourney is in for a busy next couple of months. The same applies for his counterpart at **Anderlecht, Michel Verscheuren,** who is faced with the possibility of losing Frankie Vercauteren, seen by Ajax as a replacement for Soren Lerby, and also **Ludo Coeck,** who still has a year left of his contract but would apparently jump at the chance of playing in Italy. Not surprisingly the mauve and whites have also moved quickly regarding next season, the Icelander **Arnor Gudjohnson** having been signed from Lokeren for £250,000.

Anderlecht managed to beat off Ipswich's challenge for the Icelander's signature.

Anderlecht's long unbeaten run was ended at Gent, where ex-Parc Astrid man Jean-Claude Bouvy scored the fixture's winning goal for the second successive season.

Antwerp's fine second half to the season has been excellent testimony to the three years hard work put in by their Yugoslav trainer **Dimitri Davidovic,** so it came as a bombshell when he upped and left in preparation to taking over at Lokeren next season. **Robert Waseige,** the present incumbent, will probably return to **FC Liege** and **Jean Dockx,** the ex-Anderlecht player who has done such an impressive job at RWDM was chosen to replace Davidovic.

REP. IRELAND — FROM PAUL BÜTTNER

SLIGO ROVERS, starved of FAI Cup success even though they have appeared in five finals, finally lifted the major prize in Irish football when they came from a goal behind to beat **Bohemians** 2-1 in the best FAI Cup Final for years. The Connaght club's last major prize was the 1977 league championship.

Athlone Town strolled away with the league title, winning it by a margin of 15 points and dropping only eight out of a possible 78, losing just one match.

ISRAEL — FROM NADAV YA'ACOBY

THE crisis facing **Israeli** football was clearly illustrated by events at the World Youth Cup qualifiers in Costa Rica, when three players were sent off in a decisive 2-1 defeat by **Australia.**

There was another expulsion in the final 0-0 draw with **Costa Rica** and later stories leaked out of far too many disciplinary problems.

The Olympic team haven't done much better. Their preparations for a group which includes West Germany and Portugal, saw Israel's Los Angeles hopefuls go down 3-0 to **Hapoel Kfar Saba** — who are 14th in the league!

In the league **Maccabi Natanya** have stretched their lead over **Maccabi Tel-Aviv** to 12 points, with **Oded Mahness** scoring his 150th league goal. He is now second in the all-time scorers list, behind **Mordechai Spiegler** (210).

Jack Mansell, former Israel national manager and one-time Portsmouth defender, has returned to England after quitting as coach to **Haifa.**

Libertadores Cup History—part two by Eric Weil

Boca Juniors join in

THE incident-packed finals — three matches including a play-off — of the 1962 South American club championship between Santos (Brazil) and Peñarol (Uruguay) not only hit the headlines to bring the competition to the eyes of the public, but the big gates at these matches also made club officials realise the financial potential.

The latter consideration was probably uppermost in the mind of far-sighted and energetic Boca Juniors (Argentina) club president Alberto Armando when he talked his committee around to taking the competition seriously after the club qualified for the 1963 edition by winning its country's first division title in 1962.

Boca Juniors not only became the first Argentine club to take the competition seriously, but they — and other clubs from that country later — went to the other extreme by frequently fielding weak teams (even full reserve sides) in league games to rest players for the South American tournament.

This had an important bearing on the tournament, because although Boca Juniors failed to win the cup that year — going out to defending champions Santos of Brazil in the final — Argentine clubs were going to win 12 of the next 15 tournaments and in some circles the tournament became to be known as the Argentina Cup.

The three groups into which the eight participants were divided — Bolivia did not participate — were won by Botafogo (Brazil), Peñarol (Uruguay) and Boca Juniors (Argentina) who were joined in the semi-finals by cup holders Santos. The rules are against two teams from the same country meeting in the final so that Santos had to face Botafogo in one semi-final (beating them 4-0 and drawing 1-1) while Boca Juniors beat Peñarol 2-1 and 1-0 in the other.

Boca Juniors had a good team in those days, but Santos were undoubtedly better, especially the Pele-Coutinho duo. Coutinho scored two in the Brazilan club's 3-2 first leg win in Rio's Maracana stadium and he and Pele got the goals when Santos won 2-1 in Buenos Aires. Striker Sanfilippo — top cup scorer that year with seven and later frequently among the goals in Spanish soccer also — got all three goals for Boca Juniors. Both games were watched by over 50,000 spectiators and the Buenos Aires leg set a gate record for the competition, the actual figure in cash meaning nothing today.

Santos won their second straight title again under coach Lula. Boca Juniors were under former River Plate international Adolfo Pedernera who, it is said, invented the deep centre-forward position in his playing days.

. . . AND INDEPENDIENTE START THEIR SERIES

VENEZUELA entered its champion club (Deportivo Italia) for the first time in 1964, thus making the competition fully representative with the 10 member countries of the South American Football Confederatuin participating.

With 10 teams, apart from champions Santos who had a bye into the semi-finals, preliminary round matches had to be played to eliminate one team and form the usual three groups of three teams each . . . and newcomers Deportivo Italia caused the first upset by eliminating Brazil's Esporte Bahia. (As usual, the previous year's champions — Santos in this case — not only had a bye into the semi-finals, but also automatic entry whether they won their country's domestic championship or not and that country could therefore also enter its champion.)

The year 1964 also marked the first win for an Argentine club — Independiente no less who then went on to create records by winning the tournament six times and four times in succession from 1972 to 1975.

Independiente are one of Argentina's big six soccer clubs, but they had not done anything outstanding internationally until that year (1964). Like Boca Juniors the year before, they put more importance on the cup than their league matches and their success was based mainly on team work and a family spirit which made them play for each other and "never say die".

This was never more apparent as when they gained their most spectacular win in knocking out champions Santos in the semi-finals. Playing the first leg at Rio's Maracana, they were trailing 2-0 at half-time to goals from Pele and Almir — Pele was not playing — but went on to win 3-2 to become the first team to beat Santos in Brazil during their golden period of the 60's.

A 2-1 second leg win at home over Santos completed the humiliation and Independiente were in the final against Uruguay's Nacional. These were tough, sometimes rough games with tight defence. No goals were scored in the first leg in Montevideo while Independiente took the cup with a 1-0 win in Buenos Aires where Mario Rodriguez scored the goal.

INDEPENDIENTE AGAIN

INDEPENDIENTE'S players became famous for always saluting spectators from the centre of the field with both arms held aloft and there was something else.

The left side of their red shirts was always wet as they came out. It appears that the area of their hearts was massaged with alcohol before each match. Whether this gave them any advantage or not was never proved, but they did retain the trophy in 1965, again under the same coach, Manuel Giudice . . . although it was tough, even though they had a bye into the semi-finals.

Facing compatriots Boca Juniors, the first division champions, they won the first leg 2-0, but lost the second 1-0. As two-legged ties were decided on points, not aggregate goals, there had to be a play-off in which both teams, afraid of each other, failed to score. Only now did goals aggregate count and Independiente went into the final on a 2-1 aggregate.

The other semi-final was much more exciting however with Santos beating Uruguay's Peñarol 5-4 at home and losing the away leg 3-2. With both teams equal on points and goals, there had to be a winner in the play-off which was again held in Buenos Aires — bringing back memories of the 1962 cup final play-off there — and both teams had to go all out for goals. Peñarol won 2-1 this time to reach the final for the fourth time in six tournaments . . . but it was not to be a third cup triumph for them.

Independiente won the first leg in Buenos Aires 1-0 with an 83rd minute winner from international winger Bernao — Independiente had five current internationals in their side, Peñarol had more — but lost the return leg 3-1 in Montevideo's Centenario stadium. In the play-off, held in Santiago de Chile, Peñarol — fielding a host of star names such as goalie Mazurliewicz, defender Varela, midfielders Goncalves and Pedro Rocha and striker Joya — went out meekly by 4-1.

1963

Group 1: Alianza (Peru)-Millionarios (Colombia) 0-0, 1-0; Botafogo (Rio, Brazil)-Alianza 2-1, 1-0; Botafogo-Millionarios 2-0 and walk-over. **Group 2:** Peñarol (Uruguay)-Everest (Ecuador) 9-1, 5-0. **Group 3:** Boca Juniors (Argentina)-Olimpia (Paraguay) 0-1, 5-3; Boca Juniors-Universidad de Chile 1-0, 3-2; Universidad de Chile-Olimpia 4-1, 1-2.

Group standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Group 1							
Botafogo (Brazil)	4	4	0	0	5	1	8
Aianza Lima (Peru)	4	1	1	2	2	3	3
Millionarios (Colombia)	4	0	1	3	0	3	1
Group 2							
Peñarol (Uruguay)	2	2	0	0	14	1	4
Everest (Ecuador)	2	0	0	2	1	14	0
Group 3							
Boca Juniors (Argentina)	4	3	0	1	9	6	6
Universidad de Chile	4	1	0	3	7	7	2
Olimpia (Paraguay)	4	2	0	2	7	10	4

Semi-finals: Santos-Botafogo (both Brazil) 4-0 1-1 (Santos won 3 points to 2); Boca Juniors-Peñarol 2-1 1-0 (Boca won 4-0 on points).

Finals: Santos won both legs (4 points to 0).

First leg in Rio de Janeiro.

SANTOS 3 (Soutinho 2, Lima)
BOCA JUNIORS 2 (Sanfilippo 2)

Santos: Gilmar, Mauro, Geraldino, Dalmao, Zito, Calvet, Dorval, Lima, Coutinho, Pele, Pepe.

Boca Juniors: Errea, Magdalena, Marzolini (Orlando), Simeone, Rattin, Orlando (Silveyra), Grillo, Rojas, Menendez, Sanfilippo Gonzalez. Ref. Marcel Bois (France); **Att:** 55,000.

Second leg in Buenos Aires:
BOCA JUNIORS 1 (Sanfilippo)
SANTOS 2 (Coutinho, Pele)

Boca Juniors: Errea, Magdalena, Orlando, Simeone, Silveira, Rattin, Grillo, Rojas, Menendez, Sanfilippo, Gonzalez.

Santos: Gilmar, Mauro, Geraldino, Dalmao, Zito, Calvet, Dorval, Lima, Coutinho, Pelé, Pepe. **Ref:** Marcel Bois, France; **Att:** 50,000).

1964

Group 1: Cerro Porteño (Paraguay)- Aurora (Bolivia) 7-0 2-2; Nacional (Uruguay)-Aurora 2-0 3-0; Nacional-Cerro Portaño 2-0 2-2. **Group 2:** Millionarios (Colombia)-Alianza Lima (Peru) 3-2 2-1; Independiente (Argentina)-Alianza Lima 4-0 2-2; Independiente-Millionarios 5-1 and walk-over. **Group 3:** (Preliminary round: Deportivo Italia (Venezuela)-Esporte Bahia (Brazil) 0-0 2-1.) Deportivo Italia-Barcelona (Ecuador) 0-1 3-0; Colo Colo (Chile)-Deportivo Italia 4-0 2-1; Colo Colo-Barcelona 3-2 0-4.

Group standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Group 1							
Nacional (Uruguay)	4	3	1	0	9	2	7
Cerro Porteño (Paraguay)	4	1	2	1	11	6	4
Aurora (Bolivia)	4	0	1	3	2	14	1
Group 2							
Independiente (Argentina)	4	3	1	0	11	3	7
Millionarios (Colombia)	4	2	0	2	6	8	4
Alianza Lima (Peru)	4	0	1	3	5	11	1
Group 3							
Colo Colo (Chile)	4	3	0	1	9	7	6
Barcelona (Ecuador)	4	2	0	2	7	6	4
Dep. Italia (Venezuela)	4	1	0	3	4	7	2

Semi-finals: Independiente-Santos (Brazil) 3-2 2-1 (Independiente won 4-0 on points); Nacional-Colo Colo 4-2 4-2 (Nacional won 4-0 on points).

Finals: Independiente won 3-1 on points.

Continued next month

AMERICA FIRST TO REACH SEMI-FINALS

WITH two-thirds of Libertadores Cup group matches played, Colombian champions America, became the first semi-finalists in this year's tournament as group 3 winners with one match to go.

America are no strangers to the semi-finals, having qualified in 1980, and they are now reckoned to have their strongest team in years with the recent transfer of Colombia's top player, Willington Ortiz, and several leading Argentines, notably outstanding goalkeeper Falcioni, voted Colombia's player of the year in 1982.

Colombian vice-champions Tolima were the early leaders by starting off with one win and two draws — all away — which was quite a surprise as due to financial difficulties the foreign players and coach who helped them into the cup semi-finals last year — such as Uruguayan goalkeeper Clavijo, Paraguayans Elmo, Centurion and Isazi and Brazilian leading scorer Donisette de Oliveira — had moved to other clubs.

To replace them, Tolima had bought five lesser-known Argentines, all from provincial club San Martin of Tucuman. But Tolima could not keep it up at home where they also lost to America (2-0) who dropped only two points in draws against Tolima and Peru's Universitario in Lima with most of their goals coming from Willington Ortiz and De Avila (three each).

The Peruvian teams, Alianza and Universitario, destined to take the bottom places, were disappointing, specially the latter who were ahead in most of their games, but appeared to be unfit. The Peruvian domestic championship had not started.

In **group 1,** Argentina's FC Oeste and Estudiantes de La Plata failed to get points from their trips to Chile, losing all four matches against Cobreloa and Colo Colo, although Oeste's perhaps undeserved a 1-0 defeat at Colo Colo came seven minutes from the end and Estudiantes played with 10 men for two-thirds of the game when going down 3-0 to Cobreloa.

But the group is still wide open as Colo Colo, still leading with more games played, lost both games in Argentina and at press time Cobreloa — losing cup finalists for the last two years who have the added home advantage of playing 2,400 metres above sea-level in Calama — were due to play their two games in Argentina.

The qualifier may hinge on the last match between the two Chilean teams in Calama. Curiously the first clash of these two, who have been dominating Chilean soccer for the last five years, was the roughest of the group.

In **group 2,** Bolivia's Bolivar and Blooming were written off before the start against Brazil's Gremio and Flamengo even though the Bolivian teams had the advantage of playing on high-lying home grounds . . . and when the 1981 cup champions, Flamengo, drew 1-1 in their first match with Gremio away in Porto Alegre, it looked even better for them. But Gremio won both their matches in Bolivia, while Flamengo followed them to take only one point while they were also slumping in their national championship at home.

The change of coach — see South American League Scene — which coincided with their change of fortunes at home, also put them back in cup contention as they beat Blooming 7-1 at home — Zico scored three — and had further home games against Bolivar and Blooming to play as they trailed Gremio by one point, but with an extra game played.

In **group 4,** Venezuela's champions, San Cristobal, are the surprise team and the only one in the tournament with no goals against. They had a 5-0 goals record after four games and were virtual semi-finalists four points ahead of their group rivals Tachira (Venezuela) and Ecuador's Nacional and Barcelona . . . but San Cristobal had still to play their two away games in Ecuador. In the worst of cases the Venezuelan team, playing in the cup for the first time with no big stars, can be caught up at the top end and goals would decide which presently favours them.

In **group 5,** players of Uruguay's modest Wanderers will look ruefully back to their opening match when they were so overjoyed at taking the lead against Nacional — one of Uruguay's two big clubs — that they did not line up properly for the re-start in time and their rivals, taking advantage of their disorganisation, immediately equalised. It ended 1-1 and the result could be vital as Nacional tops the group with five points from three games and Wanderers are second with three from two. The two Paraguayan teams in the group do not seem to be on the same level. Nacional (of Asunción), taking part in the cup for the first time with a young team of players between 21 and 25, have lost both matches in Montevideo, while champions Olimpia have already lost at home to Uruguay's Nacional and their compatriots.

THE major surprise in Brazilian national team coach Carlos Alberto Parreira's first selection of 19 players to play a series of friendly matches, including a tour of Europe, was the return of 33-year-old goalkeeper Leao who was in Brazil's World Cup team as long ago as 1970.

★ ★ ★

SO esteemed are league champions America de Cali in Colombia at present that when their coach, Ochoa Uribe (who is also a doctor), would not accept the job of national team coach, it was given to the club's reserve team coach, Humberto Ortiz, who has however had previous international experience and also coached leading Bogotá club Millionarios. But when the FA would not accept a coaching plan presented by Ortiz — which he had prepared together with Ochoa Uribe — he handed in his resignation.

Colombia are due to play Peru and Bolivia in group 3 of the South American Championship later this year.

South American News from ERIC WEIL

Bilar

CARLOS BILARDO and Carlos Alberto Parreira are Argentina's and Brazil's new national team coaches entrusted with taking their countries back to World Cup prominence . . . but meanwhile for both their first big day of reckoning will come when Argentina and Brazil clash in the same group (home and away) of the South American Championship later this year for a place in the semi-finals.

Parreira, who was given a one-year renewable contract by the Brazilian FA, thinks that his country still has the best soccer in the world, but he feels it is not competitive enough. "I'm a fan of competitive football," he said. "You don't win a World Cup just with technical ability and we must instil a more competitive mentality into the team."

He feels this will be the main difference between him and his predecessor, Tele Santana. Santana's team delighted millions of soccer fans with their dazzling skills in Spain last year where they were hot favourites to lift the World Cup until careless defence — and the failure to "look for a result" — sent them tumbling to a shock 3-2 defeat against Italy. "Our problem here is the organisation of the game and the fitness side and these aspects of training should be a priority, because if there is one thing our players are already best at, it is their technical ability," says the coach.

Parreira would not reveal a playing plan. "That only takes shape once I see the players I have to work with." But Parreira, who started out as a physical training coach and naturally places a lot of importance on super fitness, does not think a player's age is too important. "Stars such as Zico, Socrates and Falcao are necessary for any selection," he says . . . but when the next World Cup comes along, Zico and Falcao will be 33 and Socrates 32.

Other things which Pareira has said since taking over as coach and which could give an idea of what the future Brazilian team may be like are: "The Brazilian player is unbeatable with the ball at his feet. He can cross the field dribbling if he wants to — and I'm not going to stop him — but when he loses the ball that same player will have to know how to get back to block open spaces, to fight for the ball and get it back . . .

"I'm not in favour of violence, but a player must know when to foul an opponent to stop

a movement at the right moment. This is not violence, it is just that sometimes there is no other alternative . . . Brazil played lovely soccer, but lost the cup. I think a team is only good if it wins the cup and I will not hesitate to put a defensive team on the field if necessary."

Parreira, who has already picked a 19-player squad to prepare for a series of friendly games (see South American International Scene), is 40 and has 17 years of experience in football but has never played as a professional. He started as a physical training coach with Rio clubs Vasco da Gama and Fluminense and was then PT coach to the World Cup teams in the 1970 and 1974 finals.

In 1976 Parreira went to Kuwait to work as PT coach with that country's national team under another Brazilian coach, Zegalo, whom he later replaced and took the team to

pre-arranged plays and you hear instructions from Bilardo such as: "If we're winning and there's 10 minutes to go, you've got to waste time . . . Shout that you've been fouled, shout for a foul whenever possible. Maybe sometimes the referee will give it to you . . . We're winning and time is running out. You know what to do". (He was shouting at Sabella and Sabella took the ball to the corner flag and kept it there, covered from rival defenders.) . . . "Always lift your hands claiming off-side. Sometimes the referee will charge it."

Bilardo's idea of playing tactics: "The essence of football is goals. The team that can make more goals is the one that wins and the best soccer is the one played by the team that wins."

If you listen to Parreira and Bilardo it makes you think that this year's clashes between Brazil and Argentina — until re-

head kicks in South America are called "Chilenas" . . . and talking of Chileans . . .

Luis Ibarra, the former Universidad de Chile player who has coached Naval in Chile and Wilsterman in Bolivia, has been named national team coach replacing Luis Santibañez, but during the last few weeks before Chile's first match of the season against Brazil, assistant coach Jaime Ramirez had to take over. Ibarra could not walk. He had been injured playing soccer . . . for an amateur team called "Los Bocheros" (the clever ones).

Vicente Pernia, the former Argentine international defender, has had his contract terminated by Velez Sarsfield for disciplinary reasons. He is a great motor racing fan and has had the habit lately of going off to participate in stock car races instead of turning out for his club.

do faces Parreira

last year's World Cup finals where they were one of the revelations. Earlier this year he was also in charge of the Brazilian team which won the South American Junior Championship in Bolivia and qualified for the Junior World Cup finals in Mexico this year.

Parreira would be happy if the next World Cup finals are destined for Mexico. Brazil won the trophy there in 1970 with him as PT coach and he says, "I don't think there has ever been a better prepared team and the scientific principles of preparation (for Mexico's altitude) would be the same." (In 1970 the Brazilian team spent three weeks there before the tournament started, adapting to the altitude.)

. . . And in Argentina the same trend is being followed. Some coaches want their teams to play good soccer in the belief that this will always produce results. Others look for the result first and don't bother whether they achieve it with good or bad soccer. Bilardo is also one of the latter kind and like his Brazilian counterpart Parreira, he follows in the footsteps of a coach (Menotti) who had the opposite idea.

This is only natural. Bilardo was the onfield general under coach Osvaldo Zubeldía in the Estudiantes de La Plata team which won the Libertadores Cup three years running from 1968-70, played notoriously poor and violent soccer, but got good results mainly with blackboard moves and "gamesmanship". His most recent coaching experience was with the Colombian national team which failed to qualify for last year's World Cup finals and with his old club, Estudiantes, whom he took to the first division championship last season.

His contract lasts up to the next World Cup finals in 1986 and he has already started regular midweek training with a senior squad of 18 players and several younger squads and clubs are complaining that he works the players too hard and sends them back to their clubs exhausted for league matches.

Bilardo says the ideal age for a team to enter the qualifying stages of the World Cup is 27 to 28 years (average) which would disqualify most of his present senior squad in which he has banked on experience with some players over 30 and others close.

Training sessions are used to try out

cently the exponents of some of the best soccer played at national team level — are not going to be very pretty . . . but you never know.

MAD GATTI'S SAVES

Hugo Gatti, the Boca Juniors goalkeeper and former Argentine international saved a goal with an overhead kick for the third time this season. It was in the last minute of the match against Gimnasia y Esgrima Mendoza in the national championship and he was in the middle of the penalty area when a high ball passed him. The only way was to kick it back over his head. Gatti, who completed 600 first team matches recently, did the same thing in a first division match last season and also back in 1970 although on that occasion this shot went to a rival who scored. Over-

Tim (Elba de Padua Lima), the 70-year-old Brazilian coach who was in charge of Peru's national team at last year's World Cup finals, has returned from retirement to manage a minor Brazilian team, Internacional of Limeira, in the state of Sao Paulo. He says he had been asked to return to Peru to take charge of a soccer school for promising young players, but he turned down the offer because Peruvian soccer is in turmoil.

Oswaldo Brandao, another former Brazilian national team coach, now 65, also returned to coaching with a Brazilian third division club after having spent time as a sports commentator and formerly taking clubs to first division titles in Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay.

CROSS-SECTION

Continued from page 25

Besëlidhja 0
17 Nendori 0
Ref: A. Canaj.

Besëlidhja: Hasku — Bici, Deda, Struga, Kraja, H. Gruda, Ago, Doda, Xh. Gruda, Axhani, Rama. Coach: N. Lorenci.

17 Nendori: Sharra — Baci, Lekbello, Hodja, Bimo, Liti, Mema, Muça (Josa), Vila (Vladi), Minga, Kola. Coach: E. Shehu.

Partizani 1 (Tomori 87)
Tomori 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Y. Kruja.

Partizani: Musta — Eksarko, Starova, Hysi, Hametaj, Duro, Ferko (Ocelli), Lazemetaj, Tomori, Lika, Lame (Mance). Coach: B. Birçe.

Tomori: F. Cilingiri — A. Cilingiri, R. Kokalari, Tahiraj, Kadëna, Matrapazi, Mile, K. Kolalari, Firaj, Kovaçi, Hoxha (Mino). Coach: G. Mukli.

Skënderbeu 2 (Jera og 13, Abedini 71)
Vllaznia 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** A. Hoxha.

Skënderbeu: Kaçi — Papa (Kushe), Tytka, Burda, Hoxha, Prifti, Terpo (Andoni), Rrapo, Kallço, M. Këçiçi, Abedini. Coach: K. Koco.

Vllaznia: Boshnjaku (Sukaj) — Shaba, Canga, Jera, Dedja, Borshi, Hafizi, Bushati (Fakja), Vukatana, Ragami, Gruda. Coach: R. Ragami.

Lokomotiva 1 (Hima 37)
Labinoti 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** B. Kaimi.

Lokomotiva: Maliqati — Koka, Kapidani, Çela, Sejdini, Dervishi, Meta, Oketa, Hado (Marku), Ikonomi, Hima. Coach: K. Toçi.

Labinoti: Gogunja — Zhorda, Lleshi, Arapi, Korsi, Rama (Shtogu, Asllani), Popa, Roseni, Tafani, Mitrollari, Agalliu. Coach: F. Jorgaqi.

Luftëtari 1 (Seiti 71)
Besa 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** L. Prela.

Luftëtari: Çumaku — Shameti, Ciko, Liti, Ksera, Nanidhi, Boni, H. Braho, Seiti, Shoni, S. Braho. Coach: H. Hitaj.

Besa: Kala — Çela, Bajaziti, Karriqi, Xhidani, Hylviu, Duro, Idrizi, Shtini, Habili, Kazazi. Coach: M. Vila.

Flamurtari 2 (Xhafa 30, V. Ruci 36 pen)
Dinamo Tirana 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Dh. Prifti.

Flamurtari: Berberi — P. Ruci, Çipi, Sallata, Lushaj, Xhafa, Liçaj, Minga (S. Çurri), Xhaho, Bubeqi, V. Ruci. Coach: A. Sulaj.

Dinamo: Luarasi — Gega (Leka), Bregu, Targaj, Kuqi, Canaj, Demollari, Duka, Barçi, Zëri (Delia), Topçiu. Coach: B. Ishka.

Traktori 3 (Buxheli 10, Lito 72, 80)
Naftëtari 2 (Koci 40, Meta 41)
HT: 1-2. **Ref:** H. Kuka.

Traktori: Linda — Dushi (Haxhiu), Veliu, Gjeci, Shurdhi, Muzaka, Taullahu, Lito, Dimo (Lala), Gazheli, Buxheli. Coach: F. Deliallsi.

Naftëtari: Vrusho — Skuro (Xhyberi), R. Gega, Dashi, Dume, G. Gega, Koçi, Iljazi, Meta, Halilaj, Prifti. Coach: F. Ismaili.

Leading scorers: Marko (Dinamo), Bajaziti (Besa), Koçi (Naftëtari) 9 each; Ragami (Vllaznia), Kola (17 Nendori), V. Ruçi (Flamurtari), M. Kërçiçi (Shënderbeu) 7 each; Tomori (Partizani), Hafizi (Vllaznia), Muça (17 Nendori), Boni (Luftëtari) 6 each.

from Eric Weil

Judge almost stops the championship

THE first stage of the Argentine national championship is over and in its new format of eight groups of four teams each from which the bottom one is eliminated — leaving 24 teams for the second stage — it was not unexpected that the eight teams to go out were non-first division provincial teams who had qualified through regional competitions . . . but the tournament was almost suspended due to the intervention, no less, of a federal judge.

In one of those bizarre and unfortunate incidents which only seem to happen in Argentina, the referee of the San Martín (Tucuman)-Chaco For Ever match was stopped on his way to the airport after the game, dragged out of the car by a mob and beaten up. The Argentine FA closed the San Martín club's stadium for seven matches, ruling that they would have to play their home games in another province. San Martín took the case to a Tucuman court and a judge ruled in their favour on the same day — in a judicial system not known for its speed — making the FA's ruling unlawful and allowing San Martin to play in Tucuman.

The FA had never been faced with a situation like this and was not quite sure if it could disobey a federal judge, but their hand was forced when the referees association said it would control no further matches in Tucuman during the time of the FA's field closure. The FA promptly suspended San Martín's next game altogether and the judge put out a warrant for FA president Julio Grondona's arrest for disobedience.

Where Grondona went wrong was in trying to save his own skin by blaming it all on the referees. He said the FA wanted to comply with the judicial order, but the referees would not control the matches. He should, however, have backed up his own referees.

The comedy went on for over a week until the San Martín club, realising it faced expulsion from the FA for taking the case to court before going through FA channels, backed down . . . and so did the judge. If they had not, the whole championship would have been suspended.

As for the soccer, it was poor. With the bottom team dropping out of each section after only six games, there was more speculating and negative soccer than ever. Some skill had gone out of Argentine soccer already before the season started with the transfer abroad of skillful veterans such as midfielders Brindisi (to Uruguay) and Babington (to Colombia) and defender Bauza (to Colombia), all former internationals. Also to blame perhaps was that players had virtually no rest as the delayed first division (1982) championship ended barely a month before the start of the new season.

Tallores Córdoba let most of their stars go due to financial problems — including veteran midfielder J.J. Lopez who was eagerly snapped up by Boca Juniors on a free transfer given to him by the Córdoba club in exchange for salaries owing to him. But Talleres did surprisingly well with a lot of newcomers, finishing top of their group as one of six unbeaten teams.

Also unbeaten group winners were San Lorenzo who returned to the first division for this season after one year's absence, bringing with them the huge following which they strangely acquired while in the Second Division last year and which pulled them out of the red. They again pulled in the biggest crowds while many other clubs were playing to half empty stadiums.

Defending national champions FC Oeste and first division title holders Estudiantes de La Plata managed to qualify for the second stage in spite of fielding reserve teams in two games while they were playing Libertadores Cup games in Chile.

Once mighty River Plate continued to give poor performances and reached the second stage with a third-place finish. None of their new buys — strikers Erba, Trossero (back from France) and Uruguayan Bica — had come off and they still badly lacked a creative midfielder, a position never adequately filled since Alonso moved to Velez Sarsfield. Their hopes now rest on Uruguayan Francescoli whose transfer from Wanderers (Uruguay), although previously reported, was held up and had finally gone through at press time.

Some entertaining soccer, and plenty of goals, were being provided by veteran teams playing preliminary matches instead of the clubs' respective reserve teams, but in the top teams about the only outstanding performances were those of Boca Juniors goalie Gatti who saved a goal with an overhead kick two weeks after completing 600 first team games and junior international Gabrich who scored a "hat-trick" in three minutes for Newell's Old Boys and four goals in all in the 7-1 victory over Kimberley (Mar del Plata).

At press time the championship faced another danger. Most of the players had not yet signed new contracts with their clubs (failing to reach agreement) and many were not being paid. Estudiantes players had already decided they would reduce training time for a start and River Plate's World Cup goalkeeper Fillol had gone on a one-man strike, refusing to play until contract agreement was reached.

And as financial worries continue, one club recently relegated to the second division (Colon Santa Fe) had an embargo put on them for unpaid debts. The gate money did not cover it and court officials wanted to take the players' boots and playing kit as they came off at half-time. Only after lengthy argument were they allowed to use them to play the second half . . . can this happen anywhere else?

In Brazil: CHANGES IN FLAMENGO AND CORINTHIANS

IT was a tale of two cities in Brazilian soccer as the country's two most popular clubs, Flamengo of Rio de Janeiro and Corinthians of Sao Paulo changed coaches — both for widely different reasons — although both were close to reaching the quarter-final stage of the lengthy Brazilian national championship.

While Flamengo was winning, they were not doing it convincingly and not playing good soccer — which is what the fans, remembering their world club championship days, really want. Gaining a poor 2-0 win over lowly Tiradenters in front of only 6,000 spectators was too much for them and the insults they hurled at coach Carpegiani was also too much for the latter as he handed in his resignation after the game.

Junior team coach Carlinhos was named to replace him and although the team was cheered for the first time in weeks when, in his first match, they drew 1-1 (and should have won) with Palmeiras after losing 3-1 to them the week before, they did not keep up the good work and Carlinho's reign did not last long. Flamengo had transferred stars like Tita to Gremio and Nunes to Botafogo, but they still had their World Cup men Zico, Leandro and a very off-form Junior, yet were only a shadow of the side of 1982.

Carlos Alberto (Torres), captain and defender of the last Brazilian team to win the World Cup (in 1970) and most recently of New York Cosmos was engaged as coach and in his first match Flamengo thrashed Corinthians 5-1 in the third stage of the national championship and played like they used to for the first time in months in front of 95,000 cheering fans at Rio's Maracana stadium. Carpegiani meanwhile was reported to have accepted an offer to coach in Saudi Arabia — the El Shabb club at 15,000 dollars a month.

Over to Sao Paulo's Corinthians whose manager/coach, Mario Travaglini, had to go because the players voted him out. In a curious set-up where the players had for some time decided on team selection, substitutions during games, training schedules, etc, Travaglini had lost virtually all authority and then he was voted out and replaced — by vote — with 33-year-old Ze Maria, a former idol and defender of the club and now playing in the reserves. Many of the Corinthian players are actively engaged in politics and imposed the democratic system at the club.

Sao Paulo seemed to be favourites to land the national title this year with five of the league's clubs — Sao Paulo FC, Ferroviaria, Corinthians, Palmeiras and Santos — entering the 16-club third stage of the championship as group winners and Guarani also qualifying in second place on goal average behind Santos. Meanwhile Rio stalwarts Flamengo and Vasco da Gama struggled through — the latter thanks only to a controversial penalty 15 minutes from time

Bianchi heading in a goal for unbeaten Velez Sarsfield in their 3-0 win over Altos Hornos Zapla in the Argentina national championship.

in their last group match. Rio's star team in the first two stages was America, coached by Zico's brother Edu who had also been a candidate to take over at Flamengo, but America were pointless after three of six matches in the third stage from which the top two teams of four four-team groups go into the quarter-finals.

Brazil's former international goalkeeper Leao moved from Gremio to Corinthians where he has played some outstanding games, but in the 5-1 thrashing by Flamengo it was the first time in his career that he had let through so many goals in one match.

In Chile: TWO COACHES IN TROUBLE

TEAMS which showed up badly during last season's first division championship lead the two groups of this season's pre-season "Polla Gol" tournament, while two leading coaches are in trouble.

Luis Santibañez, who was in charge of the Chilean World Cup team in Spain last year and also coached Universidad Catolica last season, moved to great rivals Universidad de Chile after "Catolica", in spite of many costly buys had a poor season. Now Universidad de Chile, who were fighting for the title all last season and finished joint third, are near the bottom of their section while Universidad Catolica top the other section and members of the former club, many of whom were against Santibañez being engaged, are saying he brings bad luck.

Meanwhile Pedro García, coach of vice-champions Colo Colo, has been given a 1,082 days suspended prison sentence for being involved in the falsification of passports of 15 of the national junior team players (of whom he was in charge) who participated in the South American Junior Championship in Montevideo in 1979, thus making them appear under the required age limit.

While Universidad Catolica tops section A of the pre-season tournament — two points in front of joint second Palestino (who struggled against relegation last season) and champions Cobreloa (who have a game in hand and are also engaged in the Libertadores Cup), Talca Rangers — who should have been relegated last season, but stayed up "by decree" — top the other section in which Colo Colo (also playing in the Libertadores Cup) are seven points behind, but have four matches to make up. The championship this year qualifies two candidates for next year's Libertadores Cup.

In Uruguay: UNCERTAINTY AND DEBTS

THE Uruguayan first division championship was due to start on May 7, but it was not certain that it would at press time, because players, owed a lot of back pay and bonuses, may refuse to play.

Six clubs still owed their players money from last season — between half a million and a million dollars each, according to the players lawyer Gustavo Penades. An FA spokesman said that the championship may start on time, but with only the eight clubs who are virtually up to date with payments. Those in trouble are small clubs Huracan Buceo, Miramar, Progreso, Rampla Juniors, Sud America and River Plate, but it was rumoured that big club Peñarol was having problems in paying their striker Fernando Morena his 20,000 dollars a month salary and might have to sell him . . . but this was hotly denied by club president Washington Cattaldi.

Meanwhile Peñarol and Nacional, with all their matches won, were topping the two groups of a pre-season tournament. Nacional were already group winners of a pre-season tournament. Nacional were already group winners and Penarol needed a point to qualify for a final clash with them, but many other teams — specially the aforementioned in debt — were fielding reserves and even junior players while many of the professionals refuse to play. The financial chaos in Uruguayan soccer is due to ever falling gates due to disenchantment of fans at Uruguay's failure to qualify for the last two World Cup finals.

Uruguayan international Enzo Francescoli (right) in his debut for Argentina's River Plate as they beat Huracan 1-0 in the national championship.

In Ecuador: CHAMPIONS NACIONAL ON TOP

CHAMPIONS Nacional of Quito, the only team with only home-born players, share the lead with vice-champions Barcelona (Guayaquil), Universidad de Porto Viejo and Manta after four games, but the first two — also playing in the Libertadores Cup — have played a league match less.

The first division, increased to 14 clubs this season, is being played with some 40 foreign players and under a changed format. The 14 clubs play each other in the first stage, the top eight play in the top group in the second stage — the other six in the bottom group to decide relegation — and then the final round will be played between six clubs — the top three from each of the first two stages.

A to Z of African c

Compiled by . .

A.D.M.A.R.C. Tigers (Malawi)

Tigers won their first major title in 1982 when they were surprise winners of the Blantyre league finishing ahead of better known sides Bata Bullets and Limbe Leaf. They made an excellent start to international football when they reached the final of the 1983 East African Club Championship. They are a young side with two outstanding prospects in goalkeeper Clement Mkwalula and striker Michael Muntali although veteran international Jonathan Billy has been the key figure in their recent success.

Africa Sport (Ivory Coast)

Africa Sport play in the capital city of Abidjan and they have traditionally been one of the country's top sides. In recent years, however, they have been overshadowed by Stella and last season's league championship was their first since 1978. Star players have included international Laurent Sokou in the '70s and in recent times Antoine Bell, the Cameroon number two goalkeeper. The club's best performance in African competition came in 1980 when they reached the Cup Winners' Cup Final.

Al Widad F.C. (Morocco)

The club play in the capital city of Casablanca and were founded in 1938. So far they have won eight league titles. Star players of the '80s have included goalkeeper Zaki, defender El Arabi and forward Aziz Abudirbal. Morocco clubs have seldom entered African competitions but Widad enjoyed a great deal of success in the old North African Championship.

Arab Constructors (Egypt)

Thanks partly to the sponsorship of the Othman building firm constructors have emerged as one of the three top clubs in Egypt. In 1981 they took the runners up spot in the league, their highest ever position at that time, and qualified to represent Egypt in the Cup Winners' Cup. Under the guidance of British coach Mike Everitt they eliminated Hearts of Oak at the semi-final stage then beat Power Dynamos both home and away in the final. On their return to Egypt they won the 1982/83 league title. Outstanding players in the team are Nabil Ibrahim, a scorer in both legs of the Cup Winners Cup final, winger Nasser Mohammed and captain Saeed Al-Shisheny.

ASEC (Ivory Coast)

ASEC, who play in the city of Abijan, enjoyed their most successful spell in the early '70s when they twice reached the champions cup semi-finals. In 1971they lost to Canon and in 1975 to Enugu. In more recent years they have been less successful but they did follow their 1980 league championship with another fine cup run that took them to the quarter-finals.

Ashante Kotoko (Ghana)

Asante are one of the great African teams and although they have only once won the champions cup they have been losing finalists on four occasions. In 1967 they actually held T.P. Mazembe to a draw over two legs but forfeited the play off when they could not agree on a venue. At home they have at times been given stiff opposition from Hearts and the '70s were a lean spell bringing the club only one league title. Known as the soccer millionaires their stars have included two African footballers of the year, Ibrahim Sunday and Abdoul Razak. Another of their great players was goalkeeper Robert Mensah who was killed in a bar room fight on the eve of the 1971 champions cup final. The 1980s have brought a revival in the clubs fortunes and they made their fifth champions cup appearance last season, losing to El Ahly of Egypt. Ghana's poor economic position has caused several of the 1981 championship team to seek positions with clubs abroad.

A.S. Kaloum (Guinea)

Play in the capital city of Conakry. The club spent much of the '70s living in the shadow of rivals Hafia but the signing of mid-field star Papa Camara swung the balance of power in their favour and they won league titles in both 1980 and 1981. Were beaten by Vita in the 1981 Champions Cup semi-finals, a single goal, scored in Zaire, deciding the tie.

Bata Bullets (Malawi)

The most successful of Malawi teams in recent years with league titles in 1978, 1979 and 1981. Bullets have yet to make their mark on either African or East African championship despite having several internationals in the side, the best known of whom is Kinna Phiri.

Bendel Insurance (Nigeria)

Bendel enjoyed their most successful period at the end of the '70s. In 1978 they beat Enugu in the Nigerian Cup Final and the following year they reached the African Cup Winners Cup semi-finals as well as taking the Nigerian league title. The following season they reached the quarter-finals of the championship cup, losing to the eventual winners Canon. They returned to the Cup Winners Cup last season but were put out in the second round.

Canon de Yaounde (Cameroon)

Another of Africa's superteams, Canon have won the champions cup on three occasions, 1971, 1978 and 1980. In addition they won the Cup Winners Cup in 1979 with a record 8-0 aggregate win over Gor. Their numerous stars have included goalkeeper N'Kono, centre-forward Onguene, both winners of the African footballer of the year award, and Abega, the key to the Cameroon mid-field in Spain. On a sour note their 1981 clash with Gabon side F105 became so heated that the Cameroon Embassy was later attacked and Cameroon nationals advised to leave the country.

CAPS United (Zimbabwe)

One of Zimbabwe's most successful cup sides, there 1982 2-1 win over Bulawayo Eagles was their third consecutive win in the Zimbabwe F.A. Cup. The same year they also took the BAT Heros Cup. Star of the side is striker Shacky Tauro while other internationals include captain Joel Shambo, M'tizwa and winger Friday Phiri. The club reached the Cup Winners Cup quarter-finals in 1982, their best African performance to date.

CARA Brazzaville (Congo)

The team emerged as a major force in the early '70s when, with the core of the side who had won the African Nations Cup for Congo, they reached the 1974 Champions Cup Final in which they beat Mehalla of Egypt in both legs. Stars of the side were Alfonso Yanghat, who scored both the team's goals in the away leg of the final and Paul Moakila, African footballer of the year that season. The following year CARA got as far as the semi-finals where they lost on penalties to Hafia. Since then Congo football has slipped into the sidelines and although CARA have regularly competed in the champions cup they have had little impact on the competition in recent seasons.

Durban City (South Africa)

A predominantly white team who surprised a lot of people when they won the South African league last season. The championship side was young, an average age of under 24, and tight in defence where Terry Watson and Mark Tovey were the outstanding stars.

Dynamos (Zimbabwe)

Zimbabwe's most successful side with three consecutive league titles to their credit since 1980. Their recent international players have included goalkeeper Muparutsa and linkman Dhana and although they've lost several players to the national army team this year they seemed to have been able to replace them by signing several promising youth players. Of the club's alltime stars George Shaya, four times footballer of the year, is probably the best remembered. The club's best African performance so far came in the 1981 champions cup when they reached the quarter-finals before losing to Tizi Ouzou.

El Ahly (Egypt)

One of Africa's oldest, they were founded in 1907, and most successful sides. They have dominated the Egyptian league and twice won the African champions cup. In 1969, when they were led by Abrugreisha they beat the holders TP Mazembe and last season they overcame Asante of Ghana to take the title for the second time. Stars of that team included sweeper Habrouk, captain El Sayed and centre-forward El Khatib, probably the most famous of all modern Egyptian footballers.

ubs

BOB PATEMAN

Enugu Rangers (Nigeria)

Nigeria's most successful side of recent years they achieved a league and cup double in 1974 and went on to retain the cup for the next two seasons. In 1975 they became the first Nigerian side to reach an African final, losing to Hafia in the champions cup. Two years later they won the Cup Winners Cup with an impressive performance in the final against Canon. In recent years they have been coached by Roberto Dias of Brazil and under his guidance they won league titles in 1981 and 1982. This spell brought further success in the African Cup, last season seeing them reach the semi-finals.

Gor Mahia (Kenya)

Gor are one of Kenya's two top clubs and the only Kenya side to reach an African Cup final when they eliminated holders Horoya on the way to the 1979 Cup Winners Cup final. At the final stage, however, they were beaten by Canon who won both legs, including a 6-0 win in front of their home supporters. In recent years Gor have had to take second place at home to Leopards but they have twice won the East African championship beating their arch rivals and neighbours 3-2 in the 1980 all Kenyan final. Gor are one of the few Kenya sides to keep their old tribal name. When a law was passed to make all clubs drop formal ethnic titles Gor became Golf Olympic Rangers (G.O.R.) and a few days later they were given special permission to keep their old title.

Great Olympics (Ghana)

Olympics from the city of Accra are one of Ghana's most respected sides but in recent years they have been overshadowed by Asante and Hearts. Even when they won the league title in 1970 the event was partly obscured by Asante winning the African Cup. The two teams clashed in the semi-finals of the following year's African Cup with Asante edging Olympics out of the final in a very close competition. Olympics were runners-up in the league in 1973 but did not take the title again until last season. Striker Ben Kayede was considered the star player in the teams performance although internationals Alhasson and Lamptey remain the sides best known names.

Green Buffaloes (Zambia)

Buffaloes were one of the most successful Zambian teams of the '70s and between 1974 and 1978 won three league titles in four years. Stars of that time included Kapita, who was to captain Zambia on their 1978 tour of Britain and mid-field player Simulambo. The club's most recent league title came in 1981 and last season they reached the champions cup quarter-final, a round that once again proved a stumbling block for the club. In recent seasons Buffaloes have earned a reputation for poor discipline and in 1980 they had two players suspended for life and their ground closed after an attack on the referee.

Hafia de Conakry (Guinea)

During the height of their power Hafia became one of the most exciting teams in Africa. President Toure was one of the club's greatest fans and they benefited considerably from his support. Hafia remain, with Canon, the only club to have won the African Cup three times. Their first title came in 1972 when they beat Simba (Uganda) 7-4 on aggregate. They took the title again in 1975 and although beaten in the final the following year they won the Guinea league to remain in the competition. In the 1977 final they had a surprisingly easy win over Hearts and the following year made it to their fourth consecutive final but were beaten by Canon. Stars of the successful side included Ibrahim Keita and, on his return from a professional career in France the elegant mid-field player Papa Camara. In 1980 and 1981 Hafia lost their league title to Kaloum but they regained the championship once again last season.

Hassacas (Ghana)

Although founded in 1929 Hassacas have only recently emerged as a major force in African football. They were league runners-up in 1978 and have regularly challenged for the top places ever since although so far the title has eluded them. They have, however, enjoyed considerable success in international competitions reaching the Cup Winners Cup in 1981 only to lose on the away goal rule to Union Doula. Last season they beat Nigerian side Spartans in the final of the West African Cup. Stars of the present side include captain and midfield star Emmanuel Quarshie and 1981 player of the year, John Essien.

Hearts of Oak (Ghana)

Hearts are one of Africa's oldest sides, being founded in 1911, and one of the most respected yet like River Plate in South America and Juventus in Europe the Continental Championship has so far proved beyond them. They have twice been runners-up in the championship cup and in 1979 were a goal up on aggregate with a minute left to play when they conceded an equaliser. They went on to lose that final, against Union Douala, on penalties. At home Hearts most successful spell came between 1976 and 1979 when they held the league title for four consecutive seasons with a team that included sweeper Armah and winger Ahmed Polo, two of Ghana's most capped players. In recent years Hearts have lost some of their more experienced players but were still good enough to reach the Cup Winners Cup semi-finals last year.

Jet Tizi-Ouzou (Algeria)

Algerian clubs, put off by the long distances involved, have seldom entered African competitions at club level but when they have done they have proved formidable opponents and in 1981 Jet became the second Algerian side to win the African Champions Cup. They were helped to the final by giving a walk over against El Ahly in the semi-finals but had little trouble in overcoming Vita in the final, JET winning both games. Midfield star Ali Fergani was the outstanding star of the team and he was joined in Spain for the 1982 World Cup by team-mates Mourad Amara (goalkeeper) and full-back Salah Larbes.

Kaiser Chiefs (South Africa)

Kaiser are one of South Africa's most successful sides. They come from the black area of Soweto and played in the former NPSL black league in which they were one of the most successful sides. At the time the club were being coached by former Manchester United player Eddie Lewis and they caused a fuss by arranging a series of friendly games against the all-white Wilts team at a time when football was strictly segregated. On the amalgamation of the two leagues in 1978 Chiefs were quick to sign a white goalkeeper, Rob Rusnati, and in 1978 they won the new mixed league for the first time. They have also enjoyed considerable success in cup competitions and for the past two years have won both the Mainstay Cup and the BP Top eight. Star players include captain Rhyder Mofokeng and Ace Ntsoelengoe.

Kampala City Council (Uganda)

Kampala are Uganda's most successful side of recent years and they were even able to rival the army team Simba when that side was receiving the full support of President Amin. They have yet to make it past the quarter-finals of the Champions Cup, a round they have reached twice since 1976. In the less competitive East African Championship they have had far more success and won the trophy in 1978 beating Simba of Tanzania in the final. Two Kampala players who have given particularly loyal service to both club and country are striker Nsareko and centre-back Jimmy Kirunda.

Leopards (Kenya)

Leopards are the most successful Kenya side of recent years and in 1982 they won a record third consecutive league title. The same year they won the East African Cup for the third time to make the trophy their own personal possession. They had first won this trophy in 1979 under their old tribal name of Abuluhya. Their first success was remarkable as they entered the tournament at a few days notice after the withdrawal of Kenya Breweries and they went on to win the 1982 competition, beating Rio Tinto and the 1983 tournament, in which they beat Villa on penalties. The tougher African Champions Cup has brought them less success and their 1968 semi-final place remains their best performance in the competition.

Mouloudia Chalia (Algeria)

One of Algeria's most successful teams of the '70s the club were the first Algerian side to enter the African Champions Cup, which they won at the first attempt in 1976. The final could not have been more exciting, Mouloudia going 3-0 down to holders Hafia away from home but tieing the score on aggregate in front of their home crowd before winning the trophy on penalties. Like many Algerian sides they lost their best stars to the French professional league and their league title win in 1979 was their last to date.

Mufulira Wanderers (Zambia)

Zambia's top side of the '60s with four league titles to their credit. They have generally been less successful in the '70s but won the league again in 1978 before losing star striker, Alex Chola, to Dynamos and coach Dick Nakwaza to the national team. Reached semi-finals of 1977 champions cup and the same round of the Cup Winners Cup the following year.

● *Continued next month*

European Championship

Preliminary Round

Group 1

6.10.82	Belgium — Switzerland	3-0
13.10.82	Scotland — E. Germany	2-0
17.11.82	Switzerland — Scotland	2-0
15.12.82	Belgium — Scotland	3-2
30. 3.83	Scotland — Switzerland	2-2
30. 3.83	E. Germany — Belgium	1-2
27. 4.83	Belgium — E. Germany	2-1
14. 5.83	Switzerland — E. Germany	0-0
12.10.83	Scotland — Belgium	
12.10.83	E. Germany — Switzerland	
9.11.83	Switzerland — Belgium	
16.11.83	E. Germany — Scotland	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	4	4	0	0	10	4	8
Switzerland	4	1	2	1	4	5	4
Scotland	4	1	1	2	6	7	3
E. Germany	3	0	1	2	1	4	1

Group 2

8. 9.82	Finland — Poland	2-3
22. 9.82	Finland — Portugal	0-2
10.10.82	Portugal — Poland	2-1
13.10.82	USSR — Finland	2-0
17. 4.83	Poland — Finland	1-1
27. 4.83	USSR — Portugal	5-0
22. 5.83	Poland — USSR	
1. 6.83	Finland — USSR	
21. 9.83	Portugal — Finland	
9.10.83	USSR — Poland	
28.10.83	Poland — Portugal	
13.11.83	Portugal — USSR	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
USSR	2	2	0	0	7	0	4
Portugal	3	2	0	1	4	6	4
Poland	3	1	1	1	5	5	3
Finland	4	0	1	3	3	8	1

Group 3

22. 9.82	Denmark — England	2-2
9.10.82	Luxembourg — Greece	0-2
10.11.82	Luxembourg — Denmark	1-2
17.11.82	Greece — England	0-3
15.12.82	England — Luxembourg	9-0
27. 3.83	Luxembourg — Hungary	2-6
30. 3.83	England — Greece	0-0
16. 4.83	Hungary — Luxembourg	6-2
27. 4.83	England — Hungary	2-0
27. 4.83	Denmark — Greece	1-0
15. 5.83	Hungary — Greece	2-3
1. 6.83	Denmark — Hungary	
21. 9.83	England — Denmark	
12.10.83	Hungary — England	
12.10.83	Denmark — Luxembourg	
26.10.83	Hungary — Denmark	
16.11.83	Greece — Denmark	
16.11.83	Luxembourg — England	
3.12.83	Greece — Hungary	
14.12.83	Greece — Luxembourg	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	5	3	2	0	16	2	8
Denmark	3	2	1	0	5	3	5
Greece	5	2	1	2	5	6	5
Hungary	4	2	0	2	14	9	4
Luxembourg	5	0	0	5	5	25	0

Group 4

22. 9.82	Wales — Norway	1-0
13.10.82	Norway — Yugoslavia	3-1
27.10.82	Bulgaria — Norway	2-2
17.11.82	Bulgaria — Yugoslavia	0-1
15.12.82	Yugoslavia — Wales	4-4
27. 4.83	Wales — Bulgaria	1-0
7. 9.83	Norway — Bulgaria	
21. 9.83	Norway — Wales	
12.10.83	Yugoslavia — Norway	
16.11.83	Bulgaria — Wales	
14.12.83	Wales — Yugoslavia	
21.12.83	Yugoslavia — Bulgaria	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wales	3	2	1	0	6	4	5
Norway	3	1	1	1	5	4	3
Yugoslavia	3	1	1	1	6	7	3
Bulgaria	3	0	1	2	2	4	1

Group 5

1. 5.82	Romania — Cyprus	3-1
8. 9.82	Romania — Sweden	2-0
6.10.82	Czech — Sweden	2-2
13.11.82	Italy — Czech	2-2
13.11.82	Cyprus — Sweden	0-1
4.12.82	Italy — Romania	0-0
12. 2.83	Cyprus — Italy	1-1
27. 3.83	Cyprus — Czech	1-1
16. 4.83	Romania — Italy	1-0
16. 4.83	Czech — Cyprus	6-0
15. 5.83	Sweden — Cyprus	5-0
15. 5.83	Romania — Czech	0-1
26. 5.83	Sweden — Italy	
9. 6.83	Sweden — Romania	
21. 9.83	Sweden — Czech	
15.10.83	Italy — Sweden	
12.11.83	Cyprus — Romania	
16.11.83	Czech — Italy	
30.11.83	Czech — Romania	
22.12.83	Italy — Cyprus	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Czechoslovakia	5	2	3	0	12	5	7
Romania	5	3	1	1	6	2	7
Sweden	4	2	1	1	8	4	5
Italy	4	0	3	1	3	4	3
Cyprus	6	0	2	4	3	17	2

Group 6

22. 9.82	Austria — Albania	5-0
13.10.82	Austria — N. Ireland	2-0
27.10.82	Turkey — Albania	1-0
17.11.82	N. Ireland — W. Germany	1-0
17.11.82	Austria — Turkey	4-0
15.12.82	Albania — N. Ireland	0-0
30. 3.83	N. Ireland — Turkey	2-1
30. 3.83	Albania — W. Germany	1-2
23. 4.83	Turkey — W. Germany	0-3
27. 4.83	Austria — W. Germany	0-0
27. 4.83	N. Ireland — Albania	1-0
12. 5.83	Albania — Turkey	1-1
8. 6.83	Albania — Austria	
21. 9.83	N. Ireland — Austria	
5.10.83	W. Germany — Austria	
12.10.83	Turkey — N. Ireland	
26.10.83	W. Germany — Turkey	
16.11.83	W. Germany — N. Ireland	
16.11.83	Turkey — Austria	
20.11.83	W. Germany — Albania	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria	4	3	1	0	11	0	7
N. Ireland	5	3	1	1	4	3	7
W. Germany	4	2	1	1	5	2	3
Turkey	5	1	1	3	3	10	3
Albania	5	0	2	3	2	9	2

Group 7

5. 6.82	Malta — Iceland	2-1
1. 9.82	Iceland — Holland	1-1
22. 9.82	Holland — Rep. Ireland	2-1
13.10.82	Rep. Ireland — Iceland	2-0
27.10.82	Spain — Iceland	1-0
17.11.82	Rep. Ireland — Spain	3-3
19.12.82	Malta — Holland	0-6
16. 2.83	Spain — Holland	1-0
30. 3.83	Malta — Rep. Ireland	0-1
27. 4.83	Spain — Rep. Ireland	2-0
15. 5.83	Malta — Spain	2-3
29. 5.83	Iceland — Spain	
5. 6.83	Iceland — Malta	
7. 9.83	Holland — Iceland	
21. 9.83	Iceland — Rep. Ireland	
12.10.83	Rep. Ireland — Holland	
16.11.83	Holland — Spain	
16.11.83	Rep. Ireland — Malta	
17.12.83	Holland — Malta	
21.12.83	Spain — Malta	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	5	4	1	0	10	5	9
Holland	4	2	1	1	9	3	5
Rep. Ireland	5	2	1	2	7	7	5
Malta	4	1	0	3	10	11	2
Iceland	4	0	1	3	6	6	1

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CH'SHIP

GROUP 1. — Apr 26 (Beveren): Belgium 4, E. Germany 2. **Previous results:** Belgium 0, Switzerland 0 — Scotland 2, E. Germany 0 — Switzerland 3, Scotland 4 — Belgium 1, Scotland 2 — Scotland 2, Switzerland 1 — E. Germany 2, Belgium 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	4	4	0	0	10	5	8
Belgium	4	1	1	2	6	6	3
E. Germany	3	1	0	2	4	7	2
Switzerland	3	0	1	2	4	6	1

GROUP 2. — Apr 26 (Moscow Dynamo): Sov. Union 1 (Tarkhanov 27), Portugal 1 (Coelho 36). **Previous results:** Sov. Union 1, Poland 1 — Finland 0, Poland 0 — Finland 1, Portugal 1 — Portugal 1, Poland 0 — Sov. Union 2, Finland 2 — Poland 4, Finland 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portugal	3	1	2	0	3	2	4
Poland	4	1	2	1	5	2	4
Sov. Union	3	0	3	0	4	4	3
Finland	4	0	3	1	3	7	3

GROUP 3. — Apr 26 (Copenhagen): Denmark 1, Greece 1. — (Newcastle): England 1 (Walsh 75), Hungary 0. **Previous results:** Denmark 1, England 4 — Greece 1, England 0 — England 2, Greece 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	4	3	0	1	7	3	6
Greece	3	1	1	1	3	3	3
Denmark	2	0	1	1	2	5	1
Hungary	1	0	0	1	0	1	0

GROUP 4. — Apr 26 (Bangor): Wales 0, Bulgaria 1 (Valchev 85). **Previous results:** Wales 0, Norway 0 — Norway 2, Yugoslavia 2 — Bulgaria 2, Norway 0 — Bulgaria 0, Yugoslavia 2 — Yugoslavia 2, Wales 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yugoslavia	3	2	1	0	6	2	5
Bulgaria	3	2	0	1	3	2	4
Norway	3	0	2	1	2	4	2
Wales	3	0	1	2	0	3	1

GROUP 5. — Apr 16 (Nicosia): Cyprus 1 (Andrea 81 pen), Czechoslovakia 4 (Kovacik 22, Knoficek 31, Luhovy 38, Griga 69). **Apr 27** (Trieste): Italy 2 (Giordano 35, 41 pen), Czechoslovakia (Jeslinek 79). **Previous results:** Cyprus 1, Romania 2 — Italy 2, Romania 0 — Czechoslovakia 2, Italy 1 — Cyprus 0, Italy 1 — Czechoslovakia 2, Cyprus 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Czechoslovakia	4	3	0	1	9	4	6
Italy	4	3	0	1	6	3	6
Romania	2	1	0	1	2	3	2
Cyprus	4	0	0	4	2	9	0

GROUP 6. — Apr 22 (Izmir): Turkey 0, W Germany 1 (Wuttke 19). **Apr 26** (St Pölten): Austria 1 (Hrstic 39), W Germany 1 (Herbst 50). **Previous results:** Austria 1, Albania 2 — Turkey 0, Albania 1 — Austria 1, Turkey 1 — Albania 1, W Germany 1.

European Championship progress

EUROPEAN INTERNATIONAL REVIEW FOR APRIL

APRIL 13

Coimbra — friendly
Portugal 0
Hungary 0
Att: 15,000. **Ref:** Konrath (F).

Portugal: Silvino — Pietra, Humberto Coelho, Bastos Lopes, Cardoso — Carlos Manuel (Alves 51), Festas, Jaime Pacheco, Chalana (Costa 46) — Nene (Manuel Fernandes 46), Gomes.

Hungary: Katzirz — Kocsis — Martos, Toth, Garaba, Varga (Hjaszan 79) — Hannich, Nyilasi, Poczik — L. Kiss (A. Kerekes 71), Poloskei.

Hungarian Manager Kalman Meszoly used this friendly as a run-out for the tactics he intended using against England at Wembley: four men at the back covered by a sweeper. Their success can be judged from the scoreline in holding off a Portuguese team packed with seven Benfica players. The previous weekend Benfica had failed to score in a home league game for the first time this season, and their men failed to break the spell once more. As early as the eighth minute Gomes was unlucky to see a shot deflected by a defender for a corner. In that first half the best Portuguese player was midfielder Festas, whose starring role was taken over by Chalana in the second. There were few chances, however. Once Nene went round Katzirz, but his shot was scrambled clear. At the other end there was little to trouble debutant goalkeeper Silvino, called in because of a nose injury suffered by Bento in a pre-match warm-up at the weekend.

Lausanne — friendly (April 13)
Switzerland 0
Soviet Union 1 (Blokhin 37)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 18,000. **Ref:** Biguet (F)

Switzerland: Burgener — Lüdi (In-Albon 72), Geiger, Egli — Wehrli, (Brigger 87), Heinz Hermann, Favre, Decastel — Zwicker (Braschler 71), Ponte, Sulser.

Soviet Union: Dassayev — Baltacha, Bal (Oganesian 81), Chivadze, Sulakvelidze — Larionov, Bessenov, Cherenkov, Demyanenko — Rodionov (Shengelia 87), Blokhin.

Switzerland played some fine skilful football but that just wasn't enough to deal with the Soviets, who claimed an opening goal in only 12 minutes when Chereknko headed home. Referee Biguet disallowed that one for offisde, but there was no such reprieve for the Swiss in the 37th minute when Bal crossed from the left. Rodionov was unmarked to head back into the middle and Blokhin forced the ball home from close range, the Soviets deserved their advantage; it had been only with luck that the Swiss had kept the score down, for Larionov and Bal had both squandered openings. This was only the fourth defeat in two years and 20 matches for Paul Wolfisberg's revived team.

Gera — friendly (April 13)
East Germany 3 (Steinbach 53, Streich 83, Busse 86)
Bulgaria 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Jarguz (Pol)

East Germany: Rudwaleit — Kreer, Trieloff, Stahmann, Baum — Troppa, Ernst (Steinbach 46), Liebers (Trautmann 83) — Richter (Minge 46), Streich, Busse.

Bulgaria: Velinov — Arabov, Tinchev, Laschiev, P. Petrov — Sadakov, Zdravkov, Yordanov (I. Petrov 56), Djevizov — Yonchev (D. Dimitrov 70), Mladenov.

Joachim Streich celebrated his 32nd birthday with his 50th goal for the East Germans in what was his 91st international. But he had to wait until late in the second half for it wasn't until after the interval that the East Germans took control. They badly missed the experience in build-up of Doerner and Schnuphase and it took the second-half substitutions of Steinbach, and the Dresden 22-year-old, Minge on his debut, to add some direction. Minge played a part in the creation of all three goals and there might even have been a fourth. But Stahmann's 51st-minute header came back off Velinov's crossbar.

APRIL 16

Bucharest — Euro champ gp 5
Romania 1 (Boloni 23)
Italy 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 80,000. **Ref:** Vautrot (F)

Romania: Moraru — Rednic, Stefanescu, Ungureanu, Augustin (Andone 81), Oirgulescu, Geolgau (Cirtu 87), Klein, Camataru, Boloni, Balachi.

Italy: Zoff — Gentile, Cabrini, Marini, Collovati, Scirea, Conti, Tardelli, Rossi, Antognoni (Dossena 56), Bettega (Altobelli 69).

World Cup holders Italy were dumped out of the European championship because of this defeat. Manager Enzo Bearzot consoled himself with the belief that his men had played better than for several matches. But even the recall, after an 18-month injury absence, of Roberto Bettega wasn't enough to save the *Azzurri*. The only goal came in the 23rd minute; Collovati was pulled up for a foul on Camataru, and when Balaci touched the free kick square, so Boloni stepped up to smash his drive through the defensive wall and beyond Dino Zoff. At the other end Bettega was just too late to get on the end of a Tardelli header across goal and as time went on so the game became tougher. Collovati, Antognoni, Ungureanu and Camataru all collected yellow cards. At the end Romania celebrated both their first-ever win over Italy and also their first-ever win against reigning world champions.

Prague — Euro gp 5 (April 16)
Czechoslovakia 6 (Danek 4, 71, Vizek 21, 48, Prokes 37, Jurkemik 56)
Cyprus 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 6,750. **Ref:** Rolles (Lux)

Czechoslovakia: Hruska — Jakubec, Jurkemik, Prokes, Levy, Chaloupka, Bicovsky, Cermak (Scansy 50), Vizek, Danek, Hotovy.

Cyprus: Konstantinou (Pamboris 57) — Miamiliotis, Klitos, Pantzaris, Kezos, Yagoudakis, Kouis, Demetriu, Mavris (Savides 46), Thoephanous, Kounas.

An easy win for the Czechs, who made four changes compared with the team held 1-1 away by the Cypriots, and used a four-man front line. A fine shot by Danek put them ahead in the fourth minute and from then on it was just a question of how many. Vizek converted a Bicovsky free kick for goal No 2 — a combination between the Czechs' two best players — and Prokes scored a third with another long-range effort. In the second half Vizek turned in a Bicovsky corner and then helped lay on the fifth goal for Jurkemik. At the other end Savides forced Hruska to only his second save of the night in a rare breakaway before Danek completed the rout — again after a pass from Vizek.

APRIL 17

Budapest — Euro champ gp 5
Hungary 6 (Hajszan 23, Nyilasi 34, 63, Kiss 37, Szentes 61, Burcsa 65)
Luxembourg 2 (Reiter 57, Malget 58)
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 8,000. **Ref:** Azzopardi (Mal)

Hungary: Katzirz — Peter, Kerekes, Garaba, Toth — Hannich, Nyilasi, Poczik (Burcsa 28) — Hajszan, Kiss, Poloskei (Azentes 26).

Luxembourg: Delfrang — Michaud, Bossi, Dresch, Meunier — Girres, R. Schreiner, Weiss, A. Schreiner (Nuremberg 46) — Reiter, Malget (Wagner 68).

Hungary repeated the margin of their away victory over Luxembourg to gain confidence before the visit to Wembley. They achieved their success with a team very different in outlook to the 'Wembley warm-up' side who had gone to Portugal to practice playing for a goalless draw. A spell of three goals in four minutes in the second half — from Szentes, Nyilasi and Burcsa — assured a Hungarian victory. But the plucky Luxembourg side picked up two goals in a 60-second burst themselves to surprise the watching managers of England (Bobby Robson), Denmark (Sepp Piontek) and Greece (Christos Archonidis).

Warsaw — Euro champ gp 2 (April 17)
Poland 1 (Smolarek 2 pen)
Finland 1 (Janes own goal 5)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 8,000. **Ref:** Thime (Nor)

Poland: Mlynarczyk — Majewski, Janas, Wojiciki, Jalocha — Buncol, Kupcewicz, Ciolek (Buda 65) — Smolarek, Boniek, Okonski.

Finland: Isoaho — Pekkonen, Kymaelinen, Granskog, Remes (Lahtinen 42) — Turunen, Houtsonen, Ismail, Ikkonen — Lipponen (Hjelm 65), Hakala.

An awful result for the Poles, whose failure to hammer the game but hardly brilliant Finns put the Soviet Union very much in the driving seat in the group. After only two minutes it seemed Poland were on their way to an easy win. Boniek was brought down and Smolarek converted the penalty. But three minutes later French-based exile Janas of Auxerre deflected a harmless shot from Lipponen past Mlynarczyk for the equaliser. After that Poland found Finnish goalkeeper Isoaho unbeatable.

APRIL 23

Izmir — Euro champ gp 6
Turkey 0
West Germany 3 (Rummenigge 31 pen, and 71, Dremmlet 35)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 75,000. **Ref:** Christov (Cz)

Turkey: Senol — Erdogan, Fatiah, Yusuf, Hakan — Rasit, Metin :Iskender 76), K. Huseyin, Erdal Keser — Hasan, Selcuk.

West Germany: Schumacher — Dremmler, Strack, K. Förster, Briegel — Engels, Schuster, H. Müller — Littbarski (Rolff 76), Völler, Rummenigge.

The West Germans showed that they are sorting out their problems with this convincing win in front of 75,000 Turks in the Ataturk stadium. Skipper Kalle Rummenigge was unlucky to have a goal disallowed for offside in the 10th minute, but it wasn't long before he was putting Germany ahead for real, from a penalty after Rasit brought down the lively Rüdi Völler. Rummenigge 'scored' another offside goal in the 33rd minute, before Bayern club-mate Wolfgang Dremmler really made it 2-0 with a fine solo effort after some neat Schuster-Müller inter-passing in midfield. The two exiled midfielders from Barcelona and Inter-Milan were dovetailing well — after so many disappointments! — and it was no surprise that they should be behind the third goal. Schuster found Müller, a touch from Völler and Littbarski went away to cross beyond Senol for Rummenigge to head in. Earlier Briegel wasted an open goal and the Turks were now being mercilessly jeered by their own fans. Their best chance came in the 57th minute when Erdal Keser, who plays ironically for Borussia Dortmund, headed a corner just over the bar.

Paris — friendly (April 23)
France 4 (Le Roux 22, Rocheteau 32, 47, Toure 74)
Yugoslavia 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 46,181. **Ref:** Schmidhuber (WG)

France: Tempet — Amoros, Le Roux, Bossis, Tusseau — Tigana, Fernandez, Ferreri (Stopyra 80), Toure (Genghini 79) — Rocheteau, Bellone (Six 86).

Yugoslavia: Svilar (Ivkovic 80) — Deko, Hadzic (Hadzibegic 74), Z. Cvetkovic, Zajec, Radanovic, Kranjcar (Mance 46), Trifunovic, Halilovic, Bazdarevic (Mlinaric 46), Secerbegovic (Jesic 77).

It was 13 years since Yugoslavia had suffered such a heavy defeat. But while this result was bad news for Todor Veselinovic, it was all good for French boss Michel Hidalgo — particularly with the success of newcomers Yvon Le Roux (Brest) and Jose Toure (Nantes).

Both had celebrated their birthdays the previous week — Leroux was 23 and Toure 22 — and they couldn't have wished for a better present than a debut goal for France. Le Roux headed in the opening goal from a Bruno Bellone cross and Dominique Rocheteau made it 2-0, again thanks to a pass from Bellone. In the second half Rochteau socred the third for France, after a free kick from Jen-Marc Ferreri, and Toure grabbed an artistic fourth. With youngsters such as Ferreir, Fernandez, Amoros, Le Roux, Toure, Stopyra and Co around, the French will be a major force when they stage the European finals next summer.

APRIL 27

Brussels — Euro champ gp 1
Belgium 2 (Ceulemans 18, Coeck 38)
East Germany 1 (Streich 9)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 43,894. **Ref:** Guruceta (Sp).

Belgium: Pfaff — Gerets, Millecamps, Meeuws, De Groote — Vandermissen, Coeck, Ceulemans, Vercauteren — Van der Elst, Vandenbergh.

East Germany: Rudwaleit — Kreer, Stahmann, Schnuphase, Baum — Troppa, Liebers, Steinbach — Pilz, Streich (Ernst 70), Busse (Richter 62).

Belgium virtually assured their place in the finals next year with this win. Only Switzerland can now overtake. Yet East Germany scored first when veteran spearhead Joachim Streich fired in a 35-yard free kick which Vandersmissen, on the end of the defensive wall, deflected across Jean-Marie Pfaff. Belgium soon redressed the balance. Jan Ceulemans headed in a Frankie Vercauteren corner, and then Ludo Coeck caught Bobo Rudwaleit sadly napping with a 30-yarder for the winner.

Moscow — Euro Champ gp 2 (April 27)
Soviet Union 5 (Cherenkov 18, 64, Rodionov 40, Demianenko 50, Lorianov 87)
Portugal 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 100,000. **Ref:** Hunting (Eng)

Soviet Union: Dessayev — Sulakvelidze, Demianenko, Baltacha, Chivadze, Bessonov, Lorianov, Oganesian (Buryak 74), Chetenkov, Rodionov (Shengelia 76), Blokhin.

Portugal: Bento — Pietra, Cardoso, Bastos Lopes, Humberto, Coelho, Carlos Manuel, Festas (Costa 46), Alves, Nene, Jaime Pacheco, Gomes.

All the confidence which Portugal had gained from their 1-0 victory over West Germany evaporated under pressure in the Lenin stadium. Oleg Blokhin, so disappointing during the World Cup finals, was the star of the show, laying on three goals. He set up the first for Feodor Chetenkov in the 18th minute and the second — this time Baltacha's shot from his pass was blocked by Bento and Dergei Rodionov followed up the score. Demianenko scored a fine solo third and Blokhin reappeared to lay on the fourth for Cherenkov. Blokinin's Kiev colleague Vladimir Bessonov sent Sergei Larionov away for the fifth. For Portugal only Joao Alves in midfield played anywhere near his best, and goalkeeper Bento had an awful time.

Copenhagen — Euro champ gp 3 (April 27)
Denmark 1 (Busk 76)
Greece 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 45,000. **Ref:** Yushka (SU)

Denmark: Kjaer — Rasmussen, Madsen, M. Olsen, Busk, Bertelsen, J. Olsen (Bastrup 46), Lauridsen, Simonsen (Sivenbaeck 80), Berggren, Elkjaer.

Greece: Plitsis — Vamvacoulos (Ardizoglu 80), Xanthopoulos, Karoulias, Galitsios, Michos, Kouis (Kostikos), Koussoulakis, Mitropoulos, Anastopoulos, Papaioannou.

Denmark played steadily and patiently and eventually gained a just reward when Busk headed in a corner from Bertelsen on the right. The Greeks claimed in vain that Michos, who had been marking Busk, had been pushed out of the way by Allan Simmonsen. Just to emphasise the value of Denmark's exiles, their best player was John Lauridsen, from Espanol Barcelona.

Wembley — Euro Cham gp 3 (April 27)
England 2 (Francis 31, Withe 70)
Hungary 0
HT: 1-0. Att: 55,000 (£292,000 receipts). **Ref:** D'Elia (It)

England: Shilton — Neal, Sansom, Lee, Martin, Butcher, Mabbutt, Francis, Withe, Blissett, Cowans.

Hungary: Katzirz — Martos (Torocsik 68), Kocsis, Toth, Hannich, Garaba, Varga, Nyilasi, Kiss (Burcsa 68), Kardos, Hajszan.

Hungary had a couple of fine early chances — both wasted by Hajszan in the face of the determined and brilliant Peter Shilton. Then England went ahead with a Trevor Francis header to Gordon Cowans's free kick. Hungary's ultra-defensive tactics were immediately rendered hopeless. They couldn't convert to attack and Peter Withe scored a fine secod goal — his first for England — in the second half after being picked out with a fine cross ball from Sammy Lee.

Wrexham — Euro champ gp 4 (April 27)
Wales 1 (Charles 79)
Bulgaria 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 9,006. **Ref:** Kirschen (EG)

Wales: Southall — J. Jones, Jackett, Nicholas, Price, Ratcliffe, R. James, Flynn, Rush (Charles 68), M. Thomas, Davies.

Bulgaria: Velinov — Nikolov, Arabov, P. Petrov, Borisov, Zdravkov, Yonchev (Iskrenov), Yordanov (Slavkov), Djevizov, Sadakov, Mladenov.

Wales just about deserved their victory against a well-organised if ruthless Bulgarian defence. Five members of the CSKA side who eliminated Liverpool from last season's Champions' Cup were there but weren't merely content to defend. In the first half Mladenov forced a sharp save from Neville Southall, then the goalkeeper saved well from Nikolov, and Jackett was on the line to block a shot from Slavkov. It was left to Jeremy Charles — son of Mel and nephew of John and playing his eighth international, this time as a substitute — to win the game. Then minutes after replacing Ian Rush he prodded home a loose ball in the penalty area after Flynn's corner had ricocheted between Jones, Thomas and James.

Vienna — Euro champ gp 6 (April 27)
Austria 0
West Germany 0
Att: 60,000. **Ref:** McGinlay (Scot)

Austria: Koncilia — Krauss, Degeorgi, Obermayer, Pezzey, Weber, Schachner, Prohaska (Laimer 88), Krankl, Gasselich (Baumeister 75), Kienast.

West Germny: Schumacher — Dremmler, Briegel (B. Förster 38), K. Förster, Strack, Engels, Littbarski, Schuster, Völler, H. Müller (Rolff 65), Rummenigge.

Holders West Germany moved into an even more threatening position thanks to this draw, following, as it did, their weekend victory in Turkey. This was a disappointing game although both sides had their chances. In the 13th minute Karl-Heinz Rummenigge missed badly while Walter Schachner was robbed by an offside decision in the 25th minute when he shot past Harald Schumacher. Hansi Müller brought two saves from Fridel Koncilia in the 51st and 52nd munutes before, in the 69th, it was the turn of the Germans — and Rummenigge in particular — to feel upset after offside halted their goal celebrations.

Belfast — Euro champ gp 6 (April 27)
Northern Ireland 1 (Stewart 54)
Albania 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 14,000. **Ref:** Nielsen (Den)

Northern Ireland: Jennings — J. Nicholl, McClelland, J. O'Neill, Donaghy — M. O'Neill, McIlroy, Brotherston (Mullan 63) — Hamilton, Armstrong, Stewart.

Albania: Musta — Ruci, Hametaj, Targaj, Omuri, Eksarko, Muca (Mema 77), Lame, Minga, Vukatana, Demollari.

Northern Ireland recorded their 20th successive unbeaten home match, but found the Albanians unexpectedly resilient. It wasn't until after a tangle between goalkeeper Musta and Billy Hamilton in the 30th minute that the Albanians saw any reason to backpedal. Then, however, they locked themselves into defence and it wasn't until Sammy McIlroy turned a Hamilton cross square thaat Ian Stewart was free to shoot home the only goal.

Zaragoza — Euro champ gp 7
Spain 2 (Santillana 51, Rincon 89)
Rep. Ireland 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 45,000. **Ref:** Butenko (SU)

Spain: Arconada — Juan Jose, Maceda, Bonet, Camacho — Victor (Gallego 46), Senor, Gordillo — Marcos, Santillana, Carrasco (Rincon 74).

Rep. Ireland: McDonagh — Lawrenson, Martin, O'Leary, Hughton — Whelan (Daly 56), Grealish, Grimes (O'Callaghan 76), Waddock — Walsh, Stapleton.

Spain took over the group leadership with this win after a game in which they exerted all the pressure. The Irish, without suspended Liam Brady, were lucky to reach half-time all square. In the 32nd minute Rafael Gordillo struck a 25-yard drive against the bar and Maceda headed the rebound wide.

Ricardo Gallego, appearing after the interval as substitute for Victor, provided Juan Jose with the opening to make the cross from which Real Madrid colleague Santillana headed Spain in front. Then, in the closing minutes, after a foul by Hughton on Juan Jose, Gallego again played a decisive role by clipping in the free kick for the other substitute, Rincon, to score No 2. Rincon, top scorer in the Spanish league this past season, was once given away by Madrid!

Utrecht — friendly (April 27)
Holland 0
Sweden 3 (Corndliusson 12, 65, Prytz 24 pen)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 8,000. **Ref:** Roth (WG)

Holland: Van Breukelen — Wijnstekers (Ophof 46), R. Koeman, Spelbos, Boeve, Hofkens, Rijkaard, E. Koeman, Van der Gijp, Van Kooten (Schoenaker 46), Vermeulen.

Sweden: Ravelli — Erlandsson, Hysen, Dahlqvist, Fredriksson (Ramberg 46), Eriksson, Prytz, Stroemberg, Sandberg, Corneliusson, Holmgren.

Hogland sufferdd their fifth defeat of the season — and a surprise one against a Swedish team who have gone so long in the shadows. Two goals from much-fancied striker Dan Corneliusson led the way — his first created by Holmgren, his IFK club-mate. In the 24th minute Sweden went 2-0 up with a Robert Prytz penalty after Wijnstekers was controversially judged to have felled Corneliusson. He later rounded off the scoring following a goalmouth scramble. But the biggest issue of the game was shirt-advertising. The Swedes came out with a shirt-ad of a domestic bank on their kit — which quickly brought Dutch TV coverage to a halt. At half-time they were asked to change their shirts but, since they carried no reserve kit, it was decided instead to tape over the offending symbols. After ten minutes' play in the second half most of the tapes had come unstuck, so once again TV turned off — this time for good.

OTHER MATCHES

Apr 7 (Bielefeld): Arminia Bielefeld 1, Finland 1, **Apr 10** (Vilcea): C R Vilcea 2 (Savu 54, Basno 88 pen), Romania Olympic 4 (Telespan 35, Balint 52, Vaetus 55, Gingu 77). **Apr 12** (Groningen): F C. Groningen 1(Koeman 56), Austria 1 (Krankl 64 pen). — (Vilcea): Romania Olympic 6 (Gingu 10, Vaetus 42, 47, Radu II 77, 82, Balient 86), Petrolul Ploesti 0. **Arp 13** (Trier): Eintracht Trier 1, Luxembourg 2 (Reiter, Girres). — (Kharkov): Soviet Olympic 3 (Savarov 18, Gazzayev 26, 83), East Germany Olympic 1 (Winter 44). —(Gorzow): Poland U21 0, E. Germany U21 1 (Halata 55). **Arp 20** (Cremona): Italy U21 2 (Mancini 43, Mauro 50), Spain U21 0. — (Cerestese): Cerretese 1 (Cocci 12), Italian Military XI 1 (Bergamschi 61). **Apr 22** (Havana): Cuba 1 (Maya 85), Hungary U21 0. **Apr 26** (Port of Spain): Trinidad and Tobago 3 (Le Forest 11, 67, Joseph 75 pen), Italy Div 3 U21 3 (Struckelj 14, Calonaci 19, Cerone 42). — (Nürnberg): Nürnberg 0, Czechoslovakia 2 (Vizek 25, Cermak 52). **Apr 27** (Rome): Italy Olympic 2 (Bagni 17, Massaro 64), League of Ireland 0. **Apr 28** (Sittard): Holland U21 1 (Van der Borgt 87), Sweden U21 1 Larsson 73).

OLYMPIC GAMES
Qualifying tournament

AFRICA

Extra-preliminary round: Benin w/o v Sierra Leone — Uganda w/o v Congo — Mauritius w/o v Madagascjr.

4.3.83	Mauritania v Gambia	1-3
20.3.83	Gambia v Mauritania	3-1
	Gambia 6-2 on agg	
13.3.83	Angola v Niger	
27.3.83	Niger v Angola	
6.3.83	Mozambique v Lesotho	
20.3.83	Lesotho v Mozambique	

First round: Ethiopa w/o v Tanzania.

17.4.83	Tunisia v Gabon	3-0
1.5.83	Gabon v Tunisia	

Other ties: Senegal v Benin, Guinea v Morocco, Ghana v Gambia, Nigeria v Togo, Cameroon v Angola or Niger, Algeria v Uganda, Kenya v Libya, Sudan v Egypt, Zambia v Mauritius, Zimbabwe v Mozambique or Lesotho.

CONCACAF

Northern zone: Canada, Bermuda, Mexico, Bahamas.

Central American zone: Honduras, C. Rica, Guatemale, El Salvador.

25.5.83	El Salvador v Guatemala	
15.6.83	Guatemala v El Salvador	

Caribbean zone: (Jamaica, Cuba, Antigua, Barbados, Trinidad/Tobago, Neth. Antilles).

17.2.83	Jamaica v Cuba	0-1
27.2.83	Cuba v Jamaica	4-1
16.1.83	Antigua v Barbados	0-1
20.2.83	Barbados v Antigua	
	Cuba v Barbados	2-0
	Barbados v Cuba	0-2

ASIA/OCEANIA

Entries: Bahrain, China, Hongkong, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, N. Korea, S. Korea, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Philipinnes, Qater, S. Arabia, Singapore, Syria, Taiwan, Thailand, UAE, New Zealand, New Guinea (Three to qualify).

SOUTH AMERICA

First round: Argentina v Brazil, Chile v Colombia, Ecuador v Paraguay, Peru v Venezuela. (Two to qualify).

EUROPE

GROUP A (Turkey withdrew).

23.3.83	Bulgaria v Hungary	1-1
13.4.83	Hungary v Greece	3-1
18.5.83	Bulgaria v Soviet Union	
26.5.83	Soviet Union v Greece	
7.9.83	Greece v Hungary	
21.9.83	Greece v Hungary	
5.10.83	Greece v Soviet Union	
12.10.83	Soviet Union v Bulgaria	
28.3.84	Bulgaria v Greece	
11.4.84	Hungary v Bulgaria	
18.4.84	Hungary v Bulgaria	
25.4.84	Soviet Union v Hungary	

GROUP B

4.5.83	Denmark v E. Germany	
4.5.83	Fingand v Poland	
18.5.83	Finland v E. Germany	
19.5.83	Denmark v Norway	
25.5.83	Poland v Finland	
15.6.83	Finland v Norway	
22.6.83	Denmark v Finland	
29.6.83	Norway v Poland	
17.8.83	Norway v Denmark	
24.8.83	Finland v Denmark	
7.9.83	E. Germany v Poland	
5.10.83	E. Germany v Finland	
5.10.83	Denmark v Poland	
26.10.83	Norway v Finland	
29.10.83	Norway v E. Germany	
9.11.83	Poland v Norway	
12.11.83	E. Germany v Norway	
4.4.84	Poland v E. Germany	
18.4.84	E. Germany v Denmark	
22.4.84	Poland v Denmark	

GROUP C

Preliminaries

2.3.83	Liechtenstein v Holland	0-3
15.3.83	Holland v Liechtenstein (Holland 6-1 on agg)	3-1
30.3.83	Yugoslavia v Romania	4-1
27.4.83	Romania v Holland	3-0
8.6.83	Yugoslavia v Italy	
5.10.83	Holland v Romania	
26.10.83	Romania v Italy	
9.11.83	Italy v Yugoslavia	
17.12.83	Yugoslavia v Holland	
25.1.84	Italy v Holland	
28.3.84	Italy v Romania	
4.4.84	Holland v Yugoslavia	
18.4.84	Romania v Yugoslavia	
18.4.84	Holland v Italy	

GROUP D

Sub-group A

24.4.83	Portugal v W. Germany	3-1
8.6.83	W. Germany v Israel	
4.10.83	W. Germany v Portugal	
30.10.83	Israel v Portugal	
20.11.83	Israel v W. Germany	
11.1.84	Portugal v Israel	

Sub-group B

9.3.83	Belgium v Spain	0-0
23.3.83	Spain v France	0-1
23.4.83	France v Belgium	2-0
21.9.83	Spain v Belgium	
9.11.83	Belgium v France	
29.2.84	France v Spain	

Group winner to play off home/away in March and April, 1984.

European Olympic qualifying details (for April)

Csepel — Group A (April 13)
Hungary 3 (Kardos 40 pen, Szokolai 63, Tulipan 79)
Greece 1 (Sintsikos 37)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 5,000. **Ref:** Matinovic (Yug)

Hungary: P. Disztl — Paroczai, Kohalmi, Kardos, Galhidc — Kelemen (Pogany 73), Nagy (Budavari 46), Borso — Tulipan, Szokolai, Kurucz.

Greece: Mukeas — Skartados, Papangelis, Alavadas, Gorgamlis — Hadsopoulos, Canaris, Caragiosopoulos (Triadafinidis 75), Patronis — Sanavagos, Dintsikos.

Vilcea — Group C (April 27)
Romania 3 (Vaetus 17, 29, Van Tiggelen own goal 75)
Holland 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Mathias (Aus)

Romania: Speriatu — Barbulescu, Stancu, Iovan, Bogdan — Balint, Movila, Irimescu (Telespan 78) — Cirtu (Coras 61), Gingu, Vaetus.

Holland: Van Ede — Wandsma, Drost, Van Dord, Van Tiggelen — Suvrijn, Van Gaal, Vauters (Hofman 30), Van der Verg (Adelaar 68) — Koevermans, Holveria.

Lisbon — Group D, sub-group A (April 24)
Portugal 3 (Ademar 1, Lito 55 pen, Pires 79)
West Germany 1 (Schatzschneider 53)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 5,000. **Ref:** Bridges (Wales)

Portugal: Matos — Coelho, Frederico, Paris, Nunes (Oliveira 53) — Murca, Ademar, Lito — Fonseca (Pires 70), Reinaldo, Santos.

West Germany: Franke — Geils, Bast, Hupe, Wehmeyer — Hartwig, Mohr (Patzke 64), Groh — Del'Haye, Schatzschneider, Dressel.

Clermont-Ferrand — Group D, sub-group B (April 23)
France 2 (Xuereb 8 and 16)
Belgium 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 15,000. **Ref:** Scheurell (EG)

France: Rust — Thouvenel, Pilorget, Jeannol, Senjc — Lemoult, Zanon, Rubio — Ferratge (Brisson 80), Xuereb, Zenier.

Belgium: Laureyssen — Boeckstaens, Theunis, Lambrichts, Wintacq — Gorez, Dardenne, Ipermans (Thairet 87), Cordiez (Sanders 65) — Martens, Hoste.

SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA

SOUTH AMERICAN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP (Libertadores Cup)

Group 1
March 23
Colo Colo (Chile) (2) 2 (Herrera, Saavedra)
Cobreloa (Chile) (0) 1 (Siviero)
Att: 24,000. **Ref:** Mario Lira (Chile)

Colo Colo: R. Rojas, Garrido, O. Rojas, Herrera, Nelcunir, Inostronza, Hisis, Caszely, Urzua (Miranda), Saavedra (Vera), Simaldone.

Cobreloa: Fournier, Tabilo, Soto, Alarcon, Escobar, Diaz (C. Rojas), Merelo (Rubio), Gomez, Letelier, Siviero, Puebla.

April 5
Colo Colo (Chile) (0) 1 (Nelcunir)
FC Oeste (Argentina) 0
Ref: Luis Larrosa (Uruguay). **Att:** 35,000

Colo Colo: R. Rojas, Pizarro (Vera), O. Rojas, Nelcunir, Rios, Hisis, Garrido, Vasconcelos, Saavedra (Miranda), Caszely, Simaldone.

FC Oeste: Bacigalup, Agonil, Cuper, Rocchia, Garre, Arregui, Saccardi, Canete, Crocco (Sotelo), Marsico, Bauza (Gonzalez).

Cobreloa (Chile) (1) 3 (Olivera 2, Letelier)
Estudiantes de la Plata (Argentina) (0) 0
Ref: Enrique Labo (Peru). **Att:** 18,000

Cobreloa: Fournier, Tabilo, E. Gomez, Soto, Escobar, Alarcon, Merelo, R. Gomez, Letelier (Ahumada), Siviero, Olivera (Diaz).

Estudiantes: Bertero, Camino, Brown, Herrera, Aguero, Russo, Trobbiani (Yanes), Ponce, Sabella (Gurrieri), Gottardi, Trama.

April 8
Cobreloa (Chile) (1) 2 (Merello 2 (1 pen))
FC Oeste (Argentina) (0) 1 (Marcico)
Ref: Edison Perez (Peru). **Att:** 62,000 (at Santiago)

Cobreloa: Fournir, Tabilo, E. Gomez, Soto, Escobar, Merello, Alarcon, R. Gomez (Diaz), Letelier, Siviero, Olivera (C. Rojas).

FC Oeste: Bacigalup, Agonil, Cuper, Rocchia, Garre, Arregui, Saccardi, Canete, Bauza (E. Gonzalez), Marcico, Crocco.

Colo Colo (Chile) (0) 1 (Hisis)
Estudiantes de la Plata (Argentina) (0) 0
Ref: Artemio Asension (Uruguay). **Att:** 62,000

Colo Colo: R. Rojas, Garrido, Rios, O. Rojas, Nelcunir, Hisis, Vera, Vasconcellos, Saavedra, Caszely, Simaldone.

Estudiantes: Bertero, Camino, Brown, Aguero, Herrera, Trobbiani (Gurrieri), Llane, Sabella, Gottardi, Trama (Guaita), Ponce.

April 12
Estudiantes de la Plata (Argentina) (2) 4 (Gottardi 2, Trama 2)
Colo Colo (Chile) (1) 1 (Caszely)
Ref: Armando Coelho (Brazil)

Estudiantes: Bertero, Camino, Brown, Aguero, Herrera, Busso, Ponce, Trobbiani, Sabella, Gottardi, Trama. (Subs: Llane/Trobbiani, Guerrieri/Gottardi.)

Colo Colo: R. Rojas, Garrido, O. Rojas, Hisis, Neculnir, Vera, Inostrosa, Vasconcelos, Saavedra, Caszely, Simaldone. (Subs: Rios/Vera, Alvarado/Inostrosa.)

FC Oeste (Argentina) (0) 1 (Crocco)
Colo Colo (Chile) (0) 0
Ref: Roberto Wright (Brazil)

FC Oeste: Basigalup, Agonil, Cuper, Rocchia, Garre, Arregui, Saccardi, Canete, Crocco, Marsico, Juarez (Acosta).

Colo Colo: R. Rojas, Garrido, O. Rojas, Herrera, Neculnir, Vera (Saavedra), Hisis, Inostrosa, Vasconcelos (Miranda), Caszely, Simaldone.

Group 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Colo Colo (Chile)	5	3	0	2	5	6	6
Cobreloa (Chile)	3	2	0	1	6	3	4
Estudiantes (Argentina)	4	1	1	2	4	5	3
FC Oeste (Argentina)	4	1	1	2	2	3	3

Group 2
March 22
Blooming (Bolivia) 0
Gremio (Brazil) 2
March 25
Bolivar (Bolivia) 1
Gremio (Brazil) 2
April 5
Blooming (Bolivia) 0
Flamengo (Brazil) 0
Ref: Abel Gneco (Argentina). **Att:** 20.000

Blooming: Terrazas, Herrera, Gallardo, Villalon, Vaca, Melgar, Castillo, Taborga, Reveliz, Sanchez, Rojas. (Subs: Pereira/Reveliz, Moro/Villalon.)

Flamengo: Raul, Leandro, Figueiredo, Marinho, Junior, Vitor, Adilio, Zico, Robertinho, Baltazar, Edson. (Subs: Moser/Marinho, Felipe/Robertinho.)

April 8
Bolivar (Bolivia) (2) 3 (Navarro, Salinas, Borja)
Flamengo (Brazil) (0) 1 (Edson)
Ref: Juan Carlos Loustou (Argentina)

Bolivar: Elso, Angulo, Navarro, Urizar, Vargas, Quiroga, Gallo, Romero, Borja, Silva, Salinas. (Subs: Arias/Silva, Merlo/Quiroga.)

Flamengo: Raul, Leandro, Figueiredo, Mozer, Junior, Vitor, Adilio, Zico, Felipe, Baltazar, Edson. (Subs: Elder/Vitor, Ronaldo/Baltazar.)

April 15
Blooming (Bolivia) (1) 3 (Reveliz, Taborga, Rojas)
Bolivar (Bolivia) (0) 0
Ref: Castro (Bolivia). **Att:** 12,000

Blooming: Terrazas, Herrera, Gallardo, Villalon, Vaca, Melgar, Castillo, Taborga, Reveliz, Sanchez, Flores. (Subs: Rolando Paniagua/Reveliz, David Paniagua/Taborga.)

Bolivar: Elso, Angulo, Navarro, Urizar, Vargas, Salinas, Gallo, Romero, Borja, Silva, Figueroa. (Subs: Arias/Borja, Cespedes/Romero.)

April 22
Flamengo (Brazil) (2) 7 (Robertinho 2, Zico 3, Elder, Baltazar)
Blooming (Bolivia) (1) 1 (Revelis)
Ref: Elias Jacomme. **Att:** 13,000

Flamengo: Raul, Cocada, Marinho, Mozer, Junior, Vitor (Elder), Adilio (Gilmar), Zico, Robertinho, Baltazar, Edson.

Blooming: Terrazas, Herrera, Gallardo, Villalon, Vaca (R. Paniagua), Melgar, Castillo, Taborga, Revelis (D. Paniagua), Sanchez, Flores.

Continued next month

SHOP WINDOW

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

(12 months)

United Kingdom — **£11.00**
Europe **£12.00** (airmail)
£11.00 (surface)
USA **$30.00** (airmail)
$21.00 (surface)
Canada **$35.00** (airmail)
$25.00 (surface)
Australasia **$27.00** (airmail)
$17.00 (surface)

TAKE CARE

The Publishers recommend that respondents to classified advertisements exercise reasonable precautions before engaging in postal transactions.

FOR SALE

WORLD SOCCER — July 1977 to current issue except June, July 1982. 1977 to 1980 bound. Offers to M. Fraser, 11 Bibsworth Avenue, Birmingham B13 0AB.

SUPER 8 FILMS (11) including W. Cup/FA/Euro Cup Games. Mainly silent/bw. Preferably sell altogether. Write Football Films, 115 Barr Street, Mornington, Dunedin, New Zealand.

WORLD SOCCER APRIL 1971 to December 1982 except November 1973 and January 1974. Good conditions. Offers to C. Garrard, 75 Gloucester Road, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk 1P32 6DL.

PROGRAMME COLLECTION, Cup Finals, Internationals. SAE for details. R. Hunt, 212 Plumberow Avenue, Hockley, Essex.

PROGRAMMES. Large selection of English and Scottish Cup and Specials. Bundles £2, £3, £5 or £10. Send 30p for lists. Wants lists and overseas enquiries welcomed. Ed Nichols, 56 Lloyds Chambers, 13 Cornhill, Ipswich, Suffolk.

FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES for sale. 1960-82 League Games, European, Cup Finals, International, Homes and Aways. SAE for list. David Griffiths, 10 Kettell Avenue, Crewe, Cheshire CW1 3NJ.

WORLD SOCCER. Volumes 1-22 plus 12 binders. Best offer secures (will consider splitting). Marshall Cavendish "Book of Football" complete set 75 parts in six binders (two binders damaged, contents perfect) £20. Charles Buchan's "Football Monthly", sets for 1962 and 1963 complete with binders, £7.50 each. (Prices include postage) K. Moulden, 104 Shirley Avenue, Reading. (0734-860883).

PROGRAMME SPECIALISTS have exceptionally large range available. Catalogues 25p each, low prices, old, rare, modern. S.W.P.C., 98 Coombe Lane, Torquay, S. Devon.

BRAZIL PHOTOS AND PENDANTS. Send for extensive lists of Brazilian photos of Pele, Santos, 1958, 1962 and 1970 Brazil teams, Maracana tour, all major stadiums, players, historical and more. Also selling solid gold pendants commemorating Brazil's three World Cup victories. Enquiries to S. Groundwater, 201 Whites Road, Manly, Queensland, 4179, Australia.

EXCHANGES

TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS and Toronto Blizzard fans, living in Toronto, who wish to correspond and exchange souvenirs with a 19-year-old British ice hockey and soccer enthusiast should write to Kevin Haney, 16 Throstle Avenue, Wigton, Cumbria CA7 9QZ, England.

27-YEAR-OLD male from Yugoslavia wishes to correspond with stamp collectors worldwide. Write in English or French. Will exchange stamps, badges, shirts, pennants, football magazines, posters for stamps. Stefanovic Radoslav, Mariborska 112/12, 35000 Svetozarevo, Yugoslavia.

COLLECTOR (23) will exchange lapel badges worldwide for World Soccer February 1982 issue. Write to Luis Santos, Rua Tomas da Anunciacao, 102-1. Dto., 1300 Lisbona, Portugal.

WILL EXCHANGE 10 Foreign v British (not Irish) in Europeans, Friendlies etc. All of my choice for as many Leeds United, Manchester United programmes as possible. Gerard Cunningham, 3 Patrick Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland.

VHS VIDEO swap of football matches from all over the world. Particularly matches from South America, Italy, Holland and Spain wanted. Please write to Martti Keinonen, Vellamontie 21 A 5, 04230 Kerava 3, Finland.

COLLECTOR (35) will exchange programmes from NASL, MISL, US National Team and FIFA' World All Star Games for Soccer Souvenirs, especially badges (metal) and beer mugs. Harry Weisz, 1985 E.15th Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11229, USA.

12 DIFFERENT metal badges (Everton, Ipswich, Celtic, Wolves, Leeds, Leicester, Stoke etc), given for traditional style football rattle. British fans only please. Robert Boros, 112 Harp Road, Hanwell, London W7.

ENGLISH FOOTBALL Jersey wanted in exchange for Brazilian Jersey. Write in English or Italian to Michelutti Riccardo, Viale VAT 111, 33100 Udine, Italy.

PEN PALS

PEN PALS wanted worldwide by Lamarque Denis, 14 Rue Marty, 94220 Charenton-Le-Pont, France.

15-YEAR-OLD English boy, supports Watford wants pen pal any age from Britain, USA, New Zealand, Canada and Australia. Write to Jonathan Fox, Beechenlea, Lime Tree Walk, Amersham, Bucks.

17-YEAR-OLD African student who is interested in football ideas, fashion, soccer magazines and badges wishes to correspond with pen pals worldwide. Write to Master Nelson Edmund, Box 321, Nkawkaw-Kwahu, Ghana, West Africa.

15-YEAR-OLD wants pen pals worldwide (except England). Hobbies sport, travel, photography and listening to music. Write to John Froud, 2 Eton Close, Westmeads, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, England.

16-YEAR-OLD MALE wishes to correspond worldwide — especially with South American, Internazionale, Valencia and Feyenoord fans. All letters answered. Write in English to Chris Hollylee, 94 Farnham Road, Welling, Kent DA16 1LQ, England.

21-YEAR-OLD MALE, active Nottingham Forest supporter would like female pen pals from all over the world. Other interests are skiing, travel and going to night clubs. Please write to Ian Barratt, 3 Hillsford Close, Wollaton Road, Nottingham NG8 1JH.

19-YEAR-OLD GHANAIAN boy, hobbies are football, stamps, music, postcards etc, supports Liverpool wishes to correspond with pen pals worldwide. Write to Sampson Beidu, PO Box 69, Sunyani, Ghana, West Africa.

21-YEAR-OLD MALE wishes to correspond with male and female pen pals worldwide. Supports Liverpool and AS Roma. Write to Ugochukure Okafor, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jos, Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria, West Africa.

PEN PALS wanted worldwide by George Fwuis-Atkins, Cape Coast Technical Inst., Private Mail Bag, Cape Coast, Ghana, West Africa.

22-YEAR-OLD STUDENT, hobbies are football, reading and exchanging gifts wishes to correspond worldwide. Write to Benjamin Biney Blankson, c/o PO Box 267, Tema, Ghana, West Africa.

BELGIAN MALE (25) would like pen friends worldwide, especially UK, Scandinavia, Holland. Favourite team Manchester United. Write in French, Dutch, English or Portuguese to Serge Delross, Beguinettes, m65-B1170, Brussels, Belgium.

PEN PALS wanted aged between 18 to 25 years by 22-year-old male. Hobbies are corresponding, travelling, disco music, stamp collecting, postcard collecting, cricket, ice skating, surfing and sports. Favourite teams are Liverpool, Bayern Munich, Juventus, Benfica, Barcelona, Flamengo and St. Etienne. Write to Imran Khan, PO Box 434, Gatesville 7764, Cape Town, Republic of South Africa.

16-YEAR-OLD MALE would like to correspond with Uruguayan, Brazilian and Valencia fans to exchange programmes, cuttings etc. Please write in English to Chris Hollylee, 94 Farnham Road, Welling, Kent DA16 1LQ, England.

PEN PALS WANTED worldwide by Steve Tona, Box 2730, Kumasi, Ghana. Hobbies are soccer, basketball and tennis.

FOOTBALL FAN (23) seeks female pen friends worldwide, including UK especially West Germany, Italy, Sweden. Hobbies include reading, writing, music, most sports. Brian Middlehurst, 18 The Close, Haydock, St. Helens, Merseyside WA11 0BY.

20-YEAR-OLD MALE wishes to correspond with persons in UK and Europe. Interests are pop music and football. Write to Stephen Timmy, 93 Harrison Avenue, Aurora, Ontario, Canada L46 1E4.

PEN PALS wanted by 17-year-old male. Hobbies are sports and exchanging soccer magazines and newspapers. Write in English to Charles Kumi, British Caledonian Airways, PO Box 2087, Accra, Ghana.

MALE (17) wishes to correspond with female pen pals (14-20) from Israel, Netherlands, France, Denmark and Canada. Hobbies include football, athletics and music. Write to Andrew Monk, 37 Burbridge Road, Shepperton, Middlesex TW17 0ED, England.

PEN PAL wanted from Brazil, aged between 16-18 by Eddie Attard, 27 St. Andrew Street, Nadur, 6070, Malta.

ATTENTION: GIRLS' AND LADIES' FOOTBALL. The Scottish Women's Football Association is currently compiling a register of all persons playing or interested in playing ladies' football in Scotland. If you play football, please send a letter giving name, address, age and present club if any. If you do not play for a club, they will be happy to put you in touch with the ladies' football secretary nearest to your locality. They are also anxious to hear from any individuals that might be interested in helping to set up new clubs in their locality or alternatively would be prepared to offer training and/or administrative help to their existing clubs. If you are interested in Scottish ladies' football please drop a line to: Miss Kathleen J. McGinley, Honorary Secretary, SWFA, 2 Suffolk Street, Helensburgh G84 8EH, Scotland.

PENFRIENDS WANTED: NZ male (27) would love to hear from anyone in UK or Europe. General interest, supports Liverpool. Will answer all letters. Write to Rolande R. Wade, 10c/363 Beanconsfield Parade, Saint Kilda, 3183, Melbourne, Australia.

PEN PALS wanted who would like to exchange programmes with Yorkshire based Leeds fans and Glasgow-based Celtic fans. Gerard Cummingham, 8 Patrick Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland.

ATTENTION ALL PROGRAMME COLLECTORS!!

THE FOOTBALL PROGRAMME DIRECTORY has celebrated its 100th issue. Are you interested in collecting programmes, attending Programme Fairs and reading about other aspects of our national game? Then why not send a 50p PO and a large SAE for a sample copy of the Directory and details of membership. However you can purchase the 100th Special Issue for 75p plus large sae. Also, tickets are now available for the 9th International Programme Fair at the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London, WC2, on Saturday, June 4 — 30p each (plus SAE). **Contact THE EDITOR, THE FPD (DEPT WS), 66 SOUTHEND ROAD, WICKFORD, ESSEX, SS11 8EN.**

SHOP WINDOW

FOR DETAILS OF ADVERTISING ON THESE PAGES PHONE MARIAN 01-831 6871

Due to increasing demand for "Shop Window" space we have been forced to make certain stipulations and charges for adverts. These are: Private pen-pals printed free, maximum 30 words including name and address. Private swaps printed free, maximum 30 words including name and address. Sales, Wanted (private) 7p per word. Sales, Wanted (business) 12p per word. Display £3.50 per single column cm, minimum 3 cm. Cash with order by 15th of the month preceding date of issue.

PROGRAMMES

HOME AND AWAY LISTS
OF ALL ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH CLUBS

125,000 ITEMS CURRENTLY IN STOCK

Internationals, Cup Finals and Semis, U 23, Youth, Schools.

P. RICHES
9 Kingsbridge Road, London W10 6PU

★1982/83 PROGRAMMES★

Send stamped self addressed envelope or 16p stamp or international reply coupon for full list.

FAC Final Brighton v Man. U 80p. FACSF Brighton v Sheff Wed 40p. MC Final Liverpool v Man U 70p. LCSF Burnley v Liverpool 40p. LCSF Liverpool v Burnley 35p. LCSF Arsenal v Man U 40p. Atari Six-a-Side £1. Home Champ England v Wales 60p. EC England v Greece 60p. Toyota Cup Aston Villa v Penarol £5. EC England v Luxembourg 60p. Under-21 Final 2nd leg West Germany v England 75p. EC N. Ireland v West Germany 60p. EC England v Hungary 60p. Friendly England v West Germany 60p. EC Scotland v East Germany 60p. EC Holland v Rep of Ireland £1. EC Scotland v Switzerland 60p. EC Denmark v England £1.50. EC Wales v Norway 40p. Charity Shield Liverpool v Tottenham 60p. ECWCSF Aberdeen v Waterschie 50p. FAC Final QPR v Tottenham 80p. Replay QPR v Tottenham 60p. Home Champ Scotland v England 80p. Home Champ Scotland v Wales 60p. U21 England v Greece 30p. World Cup Prog £2.50. FACSF Leicester v Tottenham 50p. EC Final Aston Villa v Bayern Munich £1 also UEFA Edition £2. LC Final Liverpool v Tottenham 70p. HC England v N. Ireland 60p. World Cup England v Hungary 60p. SLC Final Dundee U v Rangers 60p. FR England v Holland 60p. FACSF Arsenal v Man U 50p. FA Vase Final 40p. FA Trophy Final 40p. Prog Monthly Issues 17 to date 40p each.

1-4 Progs 25p, 5-9 Progs 35p, 10-15 Progs 50p, over 15 75p. Please put your name and address on a sticky label or separate piece of paper, overseas orders add double postage. Eire orders add extra 25 per cent to total order.

PETER HOLTOM (WS10)

22 Tindall Close, Harold Wood Romford, Essex RM3 0PB

All orders returned within 7 days, wholesale enquiries from clubs, shops and dealers welcome.

ASTON VILLA F.C.

1982 European Champions

Shop Open: Monday-Friday
9.30 am—4.30 pm
Saturday 9.30 am—12 noon

FOR CURRENT PRICE LIST

Send S.A.E. to:

ASTON VILLA SOUVENIR SHOP

**DEPT. (WS10), VILLA PARK, TRINITY ROAD
ASTON, BIRMINGHAM B6 6HF
Telephone: 021-327 2800
Support your club and buy only from official club shops**

BRAZILIAN FAN CLUB

CBF BRASIL

Approved by CBF of Brazil. Write for information regarding membership enclosing SAE or international reply coupon. Also full size embroidered national badges available (to members only).

**Antonio Achilies
35 Ridge Road, London N8 9LJ**

★ FREE ★

FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES

Send 20p (to cover post) for a copy of our 82/83 Season Catalogue listing thousands of mint condition programmes available and receive FREE a League Teams Programme

FREE PROGRAMME COLLECTORS KITS

Send £5 (inc. post) for our Introductory Programme Bundle. (50 Programmes all from different clubs) and receive FREE our Programme Collectors' Kit (Value £1)

PROGRAMME BARGAIN BUNDLES

30 Big Match and Special Games, etc ..... £5 (inc post)
75 Big Match and Special Games, etc ..... £10 (inc post)
New! 40 82/83 League Teams Progs ..... £5 (inc post)
New! 100 82/83 League Teams Progs ..... £10 (inc post)
50 81/82 English League Teams Progs ..... £5 (inc post)
125 81/82 English League Teams Progs ..... £10 (inc post)
50 80/81 English League Teams Progs ..... £5 (inc post)
125 80/81 English League Teams Progs ..... £10 (inc post)
60 79/80 English League Teams Progs ..... £5 (inc post)
150 79/80 English League Teams Progs ..... £10 (inc post)
60 78/79 English League Teams Progs ..... £5 (inc post)
150 78/79 English League Teams Progs ..... £10 (inc post)
60 Scottish League Teams Progs ..... £5 (inc post)
SPECIAL OFFER 200 70/71-77/78 Progs ..... £10 (inc post)

**★ Bonus Tokens given with orders of £1 or more ★
★ Most Orders returned within a week ★**

STEVE EARL FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES (WS)
5 EARSHAM ST. BUNGAY. SUFFOLK NR35 1AH

PROGRAMMES

1940s onwards, including Specials, ex-League etc.
SEND S.A.E. FOR LATEST CATALOGUE
WANTS LISTS CHECKED
COLLECTIONS PURCHASED

D. C. YOUNG
**8 Birkdale Mount, Leeds LS17 7SS
Tel: 0532-694537**

IMPORTED SOUVENIRS

Collect the various shapes, sizes and styles of official pennants, badges, etc., from Britain and around the world. For list send large sae (overseas — International Reply Coupon)

SOCCER WORLD (WS)
**29 ARDMORE WALK
PEEL ESTATE, WYTHENSHAWE
MANCHESTER M22 5QG, ENGLAND**

THE ASSOCIATION OF FOOTBALL STATISTICIANS

A Record of Scottish League Football

Now at last a set of 4 books which contain every Scottish Football League result date since 1890, includes both Wars and Division 3. Only £8.80 the set (inc. post and pack — overseas add £1.50). First set available now covering 1890-1919. Orders to:

**AFS (WS6), 5 Hempstalls
Basildon, Essex SS15 5AA.**

INTERNATIONAAL voetbalnieuws

IT IS NO HANDICAP WHEN YOU DON'T SPEAK DUTCH!!

International Voetbalnieuws is a Dutch international Soccer Monthly with a lot of statistical information that can be understood by everybody.

EVERY MONTH ALL THE RESULTS, GOAL-SCORERS, TRANSFERS AND ATTENDANCES FROM ALL FIRST DIVISION MATCHES IN ENGLAND, BELGIUM AND GERMANY (and the results from their Second Divisions too).

For £20.00 ($35.00 yearly you get INTERNATIONAAL VOETBALNIEUWS every month.

Write today:
**International Voetbalnieuws
Josef Israelsplein 5
2596 AS The Hague, Holland
Tel: (010)-3170245560**

LEAGUE TABLES

HOLLAND — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	34	26	6	2	106	41	98
Feyenoord	34	22	10	2	72	39	54
PSV Eindhoven	34	21	9	4	80	34	51
Sparta	34	12	13	9	64	52	37
Groningen	34	11	15	8	67	57	37
Roda Kerkrade	34	13	9	12	56	52	35
Haarlem	34	13	9	12	49	53	35
Sittard	34	11	11	12	41	48	33
Excelsior	34	13	6	15	44	47	32
Utrecht	34	11	9	14	51	57	31
Alkmaar	34	11	8	15	49	40	30
Deventer	34	9	11	14	44	59	29
Zwolle	34	10	7	17	40	58	27
Willem II	34	9	8	17	49	62	26
Helmond	34	8	10	16	44	70	26
Twente	34	7	11	16	36	60	25
Breda	34	6	12	16	39	75	24
Nijmegan	34	4	14	16	34	61	22

Top scorer: Houtman (Feyenoord) 30.

ITALY — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Roma	30	16	11	3	47	24	43
Juventus	30	15	9	6	49	26	39
Internazionale	30	12	14	4	40	26	38
Verona	30	11	13	6	37	31	35
Fiorentina	30	12	10	8	36	25	34
Udinese	30	6	20	4	25	29	32
Sampdoria	30	8	15	7	31	30	31
Torino	30	9	12	9	30	28	30
Avellino	30	8	12	10	29	34	28
Napoli	30	7	14	9	22	29	28
Visa	30	8	11	11	27	27	27
Genoa	30	6	15	9	34	38	27
Ascoli	30	9	9	12	32	37	27
Cagliari	30	6	14	10	23	33	26
Cesena	30	4	14	12	22	35	22
Catanzaro	30	2	9	19	21	56	13

Top scorer: Platini (Juventus) 18.

ENGLAND — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	42	24	10	8	87	37	82
Watford	42	22	5	15	74	57	71
Man United	42	19	13	10	56	38	70
Tottenham	42	20	9	13	65	50	69
Nottingham F	42	20	9	13	62	50	69
Aston Villa	42	21	5	16	62	50	68
Everton	42	18	10	14	66	48	64
West Ham	42	20	4	18	68	62	64
Ipswich	42	15	13	14	64	50	58
Arsenal	42	10	10	16	58	56	58
West Bromwich	42	15	12	15	51	49	57
Southampton	42	15	12	15	54	58	57
Stoke	42	16	9	17	53	64	57
Norwich	42	14	12	16	52	58	54
Notts County	42	15	7	20	55	71	52
Sunderland	42	12	14	16	48	61	50
Birmingham	42	12	14	16	40	55	50
Luton	42	12	13	17	65	84	49
Coventry	42	13	9	20	48	59	48
Man City	42	13	8	21	47	70	47
Swansea	42	10	11	21	51	69	41
Brighton	42	9	13	20	38	68	40

Top scorer: Blissett (Watford) 26.

CYPRUS — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Omonia	26	15	6	4	50	17	36
Anortosis	26	13	9	4	46	22	35
APOEL	26	11	10	5	33	20	32
AEL	26	12	7	7	29	21	31
Pazoporikas	26	9	10	7	26	20	28
Aradippu	26	11	6	9	34	34	28
Alki	26	8	11	7	32	35	27
Paralimni	26	5	13	8	35	40	23
EPA	26	8	6	12	22	33	22
Apollon	26	6	9	11	24	38	21
Olympiakos	25	5	10	10	26	43	20
Salamina	26	6	8	12	28	39	20
Apop		5	4	17	19	41	14

Top scorer: Chatziloisu (Aris) 17.

MALTA — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hamrun Spartans	14	10	4	0	24	4	24
Valetta City*	14	7	2	5	15	13	16
Rabat Ajax*	14	6	4	4	20	19	16
Hibdrnians Paola	14	4	7	3	16	14	15
Zurrieq FC	14	4	6	7	7	8	14
Floriana	14	3	7	4	8	7	13
Sliema Wanderers	14	4	4	6	14	11	12
Zebbug Rangers	14	0	2	12	5	33	2

*To play off for runners-up spot.

Top scorer: Refalo (Hamrun) 7.

SPAIN — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bilbao	34	22	6	6	71	36	50
Real Madrid	34	20	9	5	57	25	49
At. Madrid	34	20	6	8	56	38	46
Barcellona	34	17	10	7	60	29	44
Sevilla	34	15	12	7	44	31	42
Zaragoza	34	17	6	11	59	39	40
Reak Sociedad	34	12	12	10	29	27	36
Gijon	34	9	15	10	32	32	33
Espanol	34	13	6	15	45	47	32
Malaga	34	10	10	14	37	48	30
Betis	34	9	12	13	42	45	30
Valladolid	34	9	11	14	34	91	29
Salamanca	34	10	6	18	31	47	28
Osasuna	34	10	6	18	39	54	26
Valencia	34	9	7	18	42	56	25
Las Plamas	34	7	11	16	32	55	25
Celta	34	9	6	19	27	56	24
Santander	34	9	5	20	44	63	23

Top scorer: Rincon (Betis) 20.

MEXICO: First Division

Group 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Atlante	35	18	10	7	64	39	46
Potosino	35	12	10	13	42	57	34
Atlas	35	9	11	15	40	56	29
Monterrey	35	9	11	15	31	44	29
Necaxa	35	6	16	13	43	55	28
Group 2							
America	35	24	9	2	62	24	57
Guadalajara	35	13	13	9	42	23	39
Leon	35	11	12	12	45	56	34
Neza	35	10	12	13	42	44	32
Tampico Madero	35	11	8	16	44	57	30
Group 3							
Toluca	35	15	10	10	59	42	40
Universidad Aut.Guadalajara	35	13	11	11	50	47	37
Cruz Azul	35	10	14	11	38	34	34
Oaxtepec	35	11	7	17	50	56	29
Zacatepec	35	5	16	14	24	37	26
Group 4							
Puebla	35	12	15	8	48	37	39
Universidad de Guadalajara	35	13	13	9	49	42	39
Universidad Aut. Mexico	35	13	10	12	49	37	36
Universidad de Nuevo Leon	35	11	12	12	44	50	34
Morelia	35	10	8	17	32	50	28

(Top two of each group qualify for quarter-finals after three more games.)

ARGENTINA: National Championship (First Round) (Final Standings).

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Velez Sarsfield	6	5	1	0	12	3	11
Newell's Old Boys	6	2	3	1	12	6	7
Altos Hornos Zapla	6	1	2	3	5	8	4
Kimberley (Mar del Plata)	6	1	0	5	5	17	2
Group B							
Independiente	6	3	3	0	11	3	9
Argentinos Juniors	6	3	3	0	11	6	9
San Martin Tucman	6	1	1	4	6	12	3
Chaco For Ever	6	1	1	4	5	12	3
Group C							
San Lorenzo	6	5	1	0	14	6	11
Rosario Central	6	3	1	2	15	5	7
Juventud Antoniana Salta	6	2	2	2	13	11	6
Santa Rosa (La Pampa)	6	0	0	6	4	24	0
Group D							
Huracan	6	4	1	1	9	4	9
Racing Club	6	2	2	2	5	4	6
Renato Cesarini (Rosario)	6	2	1	3	9	11	5
Concepción Tucuman	6	1	2	3	6	10	4
Group E							
Boca Juniors	6	3	2	1	9	5	8
Platense	6	3	1	2	9	8	7
Instituto Córdoba	6	2	1	3	6	8	5
Gim.y Esgrima Mendoza	6	1	2	3	6	9	4
Group F							
Talleres Córdoba	6	3	3	0	7	1	9
FC Oeste	6	2	4	0	4	2	8
Temperley	6	2	2	2	3	3	6
Estudiantes Rio Cuarto	6	0	1	5	4	12	1
Group G							
Loma Negra Olavaria	6	3	2	1	7	2	8
Nueva Chicago	6	3	2	1	8	4	8
River Plate	6	2	2	2	6	5	6
Andino La Rioja	6	1	0	5	3	13	2
Group H							
Racing Córdoba	6	3	2	1	14	6	8
Estudiantes La Plata	6	3	2	1	14	8	8
Union Santa Fe	6	2	3	1	5	5	7
Union San Vicente	6	0	1	5	3	17	1

(Bottom teams of each group eliminated.)

CHILE: Pre-season tournament

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Universidad Catolica	12	6	5	1	27	17	17
Palestino	12	6	3	3	23	21	15
Cobreloa	10	7	1	2	20	9	15
Arica	11	6	2	3	24	17	14
Iquique	12	4	4	4	19	19	12
Trasadino	12	3	5	4	19	20	11
Magnallanes	12	4	3	5	16	18	11
Atacama	12	4	3	5	10	18	11
Antofagasta	11	3	1	7	12	19	7
San Felipe	12	1	1	10	12	24	3
Group B							
Talca Rangers	11	6	5	0	20	7	17
O'Higgins	12	5	6	1	21	15	16
Everton	11	3	6	2	10	10	12
Colo Colo	7	4	2	1	11	4	10
Naval	11	2	6	3	16	14	10
Fernandez Vial	12	2	6	4	9	15	10
Union Española	12	2	6	4	17	20	10
Universidad de Chile	12	3	4	5	14	16	10
Audax Italiano	11	3	3	5	13	17	9
Wanderers	11	2	2	7	9	22	6

(Two top of each group qualify for semi-finals after completing 18 matches.)

SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICAN LEAGUE TABLES

BRAZIL: National Championship first phase final standings

(Top three of each group enter second stage plus four winners of elimination games between fourth-placed teams plus four teams promoted from national championship 2nd division)

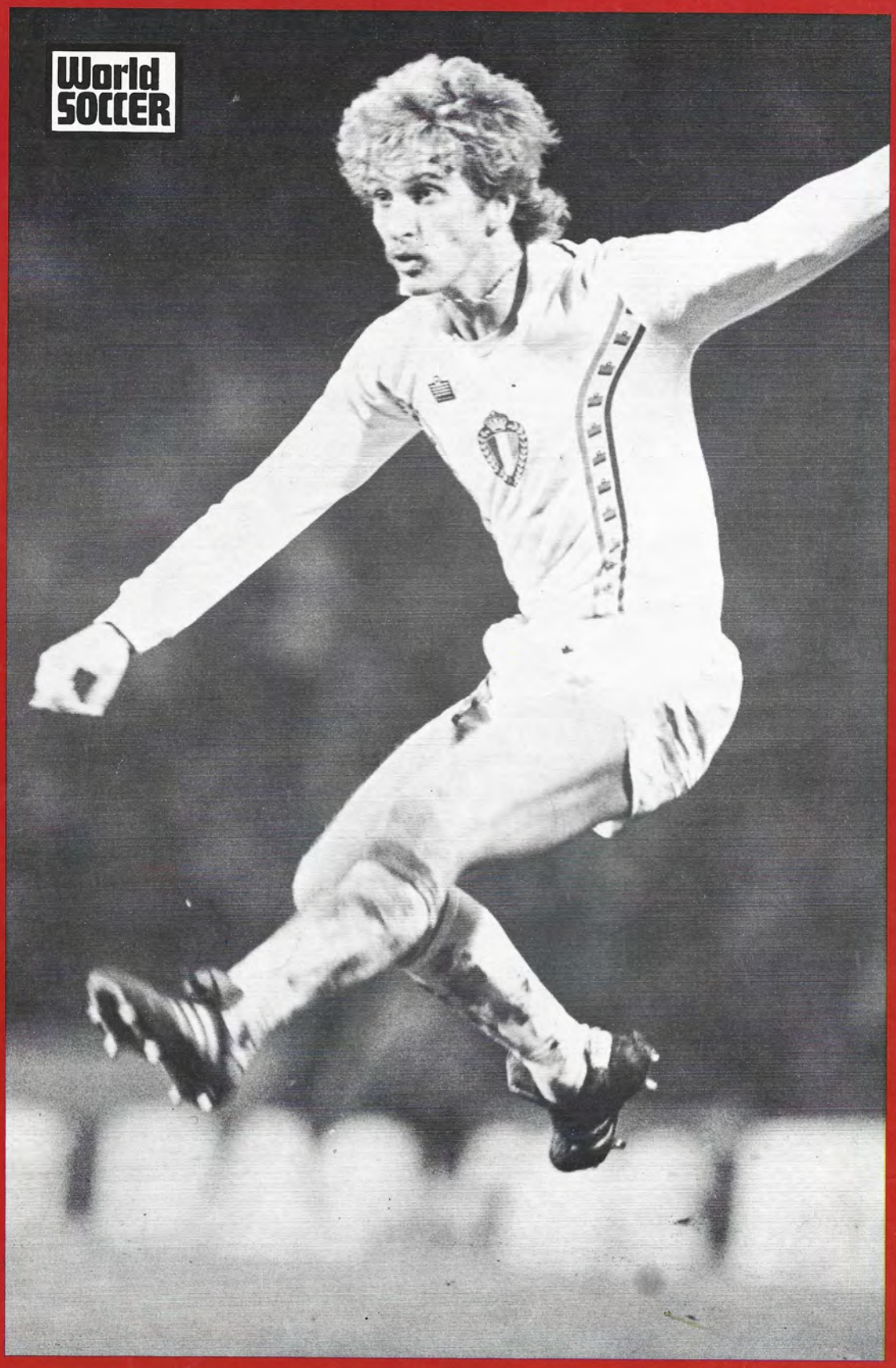
Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Santos	8	6	1	1	17	8	13
Flamengo (Rio)	8	5	2	1	24	11	12
Rio Negro	8	2	2	4	4	13	6
Paissandu	8	2	1	5	12	15	5
Moto Clube	8	0	4	4	6	14	4
Group B							
Ponte Preta	8	4	2	2	9	8	10
Gremio	8	3	3	2	10	5	9
Atletico Paranense	8	3	2	3	6	9	8
Campo Grande	8	2	3	3	5	9	7
Joinville	8	2	2	4	6	10	6
Group C							
Sao Paulo	8	5	3	0	13	1	13
America (Rio Negro)	8	4	1	3	7	9	9
Sergipe	8	3	2	3	9	12	8
Sport	8	2	3	3	10	10	7
Galicia	8	0	3	5	2	9	3
Group D							
Corinthians	8	6	0	2	25	10	12
Fluminense	8	4	1	3	13	7	9
Tiradentes	8	4	1	3	11	21	9
CSA	8	2	2	4	12	12	6
Fortaleza	8	0	4	4	6	16	4
Group E							
Palmeiras	8	6	2	0	17	2	14
Comercial	8	4	2	2	9	7	10
Bahia	8	3	2	3	7	8	8
Goias	8	2	1	5	7	12	5
Mixto	8	1	1	6	6	17	3
Group F							
America (Rio)	8	6	1	1	17	7	13
Atletico Mineiro	8	5	2	1	13	5	12
Vila Nova	8	3	1	4	9	10	7
Juventus	8	1	3	4	5	9	5
Rio Branco	8	1	1	6	3	16	3
Group G							
Ferroviaria	8	5	2	1	10	4	12
Colorado	8	4	2	2	9	4	10
Internacional	8	3	2	3	6	6	8
Botafogo Rio	8	2	2	4	7	9	6
Brasilia	8	1	2	5	5	14	4
Group H							
Nautico	8	5	2	1	20	7	12
Vasco da Gama	8	4	4	0	14	4	12
Cruzeiro	8	4	3	1	14	7	11
Ferroviario	8	1	1	6	5	16	3
Treze	8	1	0	7	7	25	2

PERU: National (decentralised) Championship final round (final standings)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Universitario	3	3	0	0	5	2	6
Alianza Lima	3	2	0	1	3	2	4
Juan Aurich Chiclana	3	0	1	2	3	5	1
Municipal	3	0	1	2	2	4	1

JOAO ALVES
(BENFICA AND PORTUGAL)

World SOCCER



LUDO COECK Anderlecht & Belgium